

AUSTRALIAN

SUNDAY MARCONI v MELB CROATIA
SEMI-FINALS SOUTH MELB HELLAS v SYD OLYMPIC

\$1.60

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FILAN SNARES PRIZE

BY GREG BLAKE

ST GEORGE surprise packet John Filan is ASW's very first Player of the Year.

Filan, in racing parlance, cleared away from the field over the home stretch and won the prestigious award at a canter.

In his first full NSL season, he has struck double gold thanks to a remarkable 1989/90 season.

Saints' goalkeeper picks up the magnificent ASW-Bayswater Indoor Soccer Centre QNSL Player of the Year trophy and a cheque for \$300, as well as taking the prize for goalkeeper of the season in the award sponsored by Reusch Australia.

Filan will be presented with his prizes at a special presentation ceremony in Sydney.

Although hotly pressed for the title, Filan held his lead for the final eight weeks of the season ahead of a classy field.

Marconi midfielder Tommy McCulloch ended the season as runner-up, with former leader Graham Arnold dropping off the pace in the final few rounds.

Melbourne's best performer was Preston's George Jolevski, who finished fifth.

Alan Davidson, in contention for honours before Round 26, mis-

sed his chance because of suspension.

To remain in the race a player must have polled votes in at least 20 games for the season.

When votes were tallied and averaged at the completion of the home and away rounds the leader board was:

Final votes Top 10

- 6.92: John Filan (STG)
- 6.73: Tommy McCulloch (Mar)
- 6.68: Graham Arnold (SC)
- 6.62: Bob Catlin (Mar)
- 6.56: George Jolevski (PM)
- 6.54: Clint Gosling (SO)
- 6.52: David Lowe (Mar)
- Mehmet Durakovic (SMH)
- 6.46: Alex McPherson (ME)
- Greg Brown (ME)

Full voting details in next week's ASW, together with a special report on the prestigious Reusch Award for goalkeepers.



Sydney Olympic's rising star Steve Refenes (dark outfit, on right) burns up the Parramatta Stadium turf, chased by Adelaide City's Alex Tobin, Olympic came out 2-1 winners and face South Melbourne Hellas in Sunday's minor semi-final. Photo: HECTOR CARRASCO.

Arambasic off to trial with Mechelen

BY JOHN ECONOMOS



Zlatko Arambasic

ZLATKO ARAMBASIC, Blacktown City's 20-year-old striker, flew out of Sydney last night for Belgium, in a bid to crack the big time on the European circuit.

Arambasic will trial for two weeks with one of Belgium's crack clubs, Mechelen FC.

Just prior to boarding his flight to Frankfurt to pick up a

connecting flight to Brussels, the young Soccerroo squad member exclusively told ASW: "Scouts for the Mechelen club who are based in Australia came to see me and offered me a two-week trial immediately."

"Their league season finishes on May 12 and they want to settle their playing staff for next season immediately."

"Blacktown City have granted me a

temporary release to trial with the Belgians for two weeks only," Arambasic said.

Should Arambasic impress Mechelen's coaching staff, he will be allowed to return to Australia in two weeks and consider a fulltime contract with the club.

The reason for the great urgency on Arambasic's trial is two-fold.

Belgian clubs have suddenly become very

much aware of Australian striking talent thanks to the exploits of Eddie Krncevic with Anderlecht in 1988 and 1989 and now Frank Farina at FC Brugge.

The other reason why Mechelen urgently want to check out Arambasic is that they are about to lose the services of Israeli striker, Eli Ohana, who returns to Tel Aviv at the end of this season.

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Bunfight over venues makes us look silly

BY FRANK SCICULNA



ONCE again as has now become standard practice at this stage of the season, NSL officials are faced with an impossible dilemma of keeping everyone happy when deciding venues for its Cup final and various Top Five matches.

Claims and counter-claims as to the fairness of these decisions hardly ever fail to materialise from competing clubs, each putting up strong cases for home advantage.

In its wisdom, the NSL has scrapped a perfectly valid previous ruling which gave the highest placed team in the minor premiership an automatic right to stage its play-off games at home.

Instead, the League has charged itself with the responsibility of selecting a venue likely to produce the biggest gate.

While some people see merit in this new, commercially motivated arrangement, I can't.

Whatever decision is

taken can only be met with strong protests from the club which has to travel and at any rate can never be anything more than an arbitrary one.

Who can honestly say with any degree of certainty that the Sydney Olympic v Adelaide City sudden death semi-final would have drawn a bigger crowd in Sydney than it would have in Adelaide?

Average home attendances for both clubs this season clearly indicated that the very opposite was much more likely.

By the same token, the NSL Cup final may well have attracted a larger gate in Sydney on Anzac Day where opposition from other sporting events was less than in Melbourne.

That farcical and downright embarrassing display on the ABC's 'Big Match' programme when the Cup final was drawn out of a box did nothing for the game's credibility.

It was simply an exercise which allowed officials to shed their responsibility of making a decision.

Hard and fast rules for home advantage, made indisputably clear to all participants before the start of both competitions should apply in order to eliminate all arguments.

I see absolutely nothing wrong with the previous method of

favouring the highest placed team on the ladder. It's fair, logical and crystal clear to everyone, leaving no room whatsoever for dispute.

Its only drawback of course is the possibility of having to stage both semi-finals in the same city as would have been the case this year if Melbourne Croatia had finished fourth instead of third.

But if that's the way the final positions end, so be it.

I would prefer to see the same set formula used all the way up to and including the grand final instead of the ridiculous two-leg affair whenever two interstate teams make the big one.

Can anyone imagine a rugby league grand final, AFL or for that matter an English FA Cup final played over two legs?

After all, having won what is universally considered the real championship, the minor premiers are fully entitled to some advantage in a decider for the official title.

The venue for the NSL Cup final should be decided on the same formula.

Whichever finalist has the superior goals for and against leading to the final should automatically play at home. Once again, there will be no room for argument and dispute as the figures will speak for themselves.

On that basis, this year's final should have gone to Sydney by virtue of Olympic's 11-3 goal record against South Melbourne's 10-3.

Nothing can be simpler, more equitable and straightforward.

Should goal differences be the same, the team scoring the highest number of goals gets home advantage. In the unlikely event of that also being identical, a



toss of a coin can then be used as a last resort.

As an added bonus, this method will force clubs to take the earlier rounds more seriously.

Instead of fielding second-string lineups as most tend to do, they will be encouraged to use their strongest available team as the winning margin of every

match may well determine the venue should they reach the final.

As rational as those arguments are, I can already hear screams of "What about the gate money that may be lost to the league from using these formulas?"

How terribly silly of me not to even consider that. I'm being stupid enough to only think of the most logical and professional manner of deciding the venues of our two major competitions.

Tell you what, completely disregard what's been said so far. I take it all back.

Instead, let's have every top five game and every single Cup tie played on a home and away basis. That alone can double attendance.

Play the Cup final on a best out of three basis as they do in World Series cricket. Better still, let's have a marathon best out of SEVEN match grand final series like they do in America with baseball and basketball.

It may make a complete mockery of the game, but just think of all those lovely dollars which will come streaming through the gates!!

Likely Socceroo choices

BY KEITH GILMOUR

B R A N K O Milosevic, Tom McCulloch, Andrew Bernal, Jean-Paul de Marigny and Robbie Wheatley are all likely to secure Socceroo places for one game against forthcoming tourists Hajduk Split.

Stand-in coach Eddie Thomson has vowed not to make many changes to the present squad, but these players can expect to be given the chance to show their wares in international company.

Australia is due to meet Hajduk at Parramatta Stadium on Sunday June 3, followed by the Melbourne match at Olympic Park on Wednesday June 6.

Eddie Thomson has the job of handling the national team for these matches, followed later by the big tournament in Indonesia in August.

He was awarded the caretaker post by new Australian Soccer Federation chairman John Constantine whilst a final decision over the successor to Frank Arok is made.

Said Thomson: "I've got the keys — but not the car."

It will be a tricky time for the ex-Sydney City and Sydney Olympic boss, who was formerly assistant national coach.

He has lost the services of now departed Melbourne Croatia star Zeljko Adzic, and must keep the squad enthused whilst they are in an off-season lull mode.

"It will be tricky — there is quite a gap from early June to August," he added.

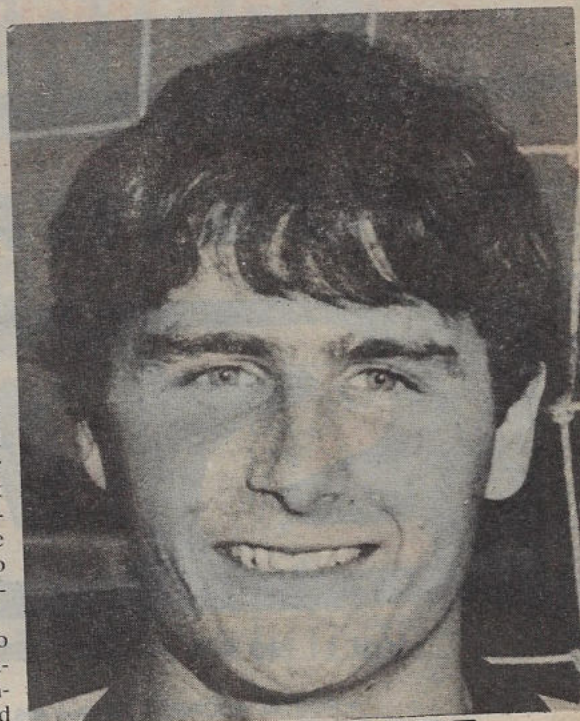
"I will certainly be keeping a steady ship, but there are definitely a few extra players who deserve a go."

Not the least of these is the classy Milosevic, who has really looked the part as a Melbourne Croatia midfield playmaker.

Of course, Frank Farina would quickly receive the green light if he returned for an off-season break from his scoring feats with FC Bruges.

Regarding his other post as national director of coaching, Thomson is enthusiastically planning a course for Level 2 and 3 coaches in Canberra for the last week in June.

Conducted with the very considerable co-operation of Australian Institute of Sport head coach Ron Smith, there is room for 60 coaches and the cost to them for their meals and accommodation will be \$100.



TOMMY McCULLOCH

Thomson said: "Far too many good players end up outside the game. These courses are designed to

keep them in. "Contact can be made with the ASF office (02 597 6611) for details."

Bertolli night at APIA Club

A great evening of soccer entertainment will be held at the APIA Soccer Club, Leichhardt, on Friday May 25 called the "APIA Bertolli Soccer Night."

A panel of soccer celebrities will discuss their views on the game, answer questions and discuss the forthcoming World Cup.

The all-star panel will include Socceroo skipper Charlie Yankos, coach of the NSL champions, Marconi, Berti Mariani, "Mr Soccer" Les Murray, APIA goalkeeper Tony Pezzano and Italian identity Tony Palumbo.

Completing the panel will be soccer lover and one of Australia's leading rugby league footballers, Benny Elias.

To keep the unique panel under control, TV personality and 'soccer nut' Andy Paschalidis will be acting as Master

of Ceremonies.

With the World Cup just around the corner SBS Television has generously provided some great World Cup footage to be shown on a big screen at the APIA Club.

Soccer bloopers and funny spots will also provide great entertainment during the night.

APIA sponsors Bertolli will be supporting the night to the full by providing spot prizes and a great pasta meal.

The meal, prizes and entertainment are all available for just \$22.

Tickets are available from the club at 38 Frazer Street, Leichhardt 2040, Tel: 810 0187 or send a cheque and SAE to Sportsforce, PO Box 5065, West Chatswood 2057, Tel: 410 9816.

Obtain your tickets quickly for what will be a great night of soccer entertainment with the sport's leading personalities.

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Olympic aiming for sweet revenge

BY LOU GAUTIER

SYDNEY Olympic and Melbourne Croatia showed tremendous character to win their QNSL play-off matches last Sunday.

Melbourne Croatia were vastly under-strength, without key players Zeljko Adzic, Josip Biskic and Alan Davidson, yet held out for 120 minutes before winning the penalty shoot-out against Cup winners South Melbourne Hellas again on Sunday.

Olympic picked themselves off the floor after a demoralising midweek NSL Cup final defeat and came from behind to oust Adelaide City in the sudden-death semi at Parramatta Stadium.

Minor semi final

Sydney Olympic get a chance for quick revenge when they tackle South Melbourne Hellas again on Sunday.

And as was the case on Anzac Day, they again travel to Melbourne to take on their Greek-supported "sister" club.

But you can rest assured there will no fraternal love involved, only fierce sibling rivalry.

Olympic bounced back magnificently from their midweek Cup final defeat to eliminate Adelaide City at Parramatta Stadium last Sunday.

But spare a thought



Robert Zabica appears to be wrong-footed as the AdCity goal is under threat by Sydney Olympic strikers at Parramatta Stadium last Sunday — HECTOR CARRASCO photo.

for the South Australians, who remain adamant they deserved to have played the game at Hindmarsh because of their higher final placing in the minor premiership.

The poor crowd at Parramatta, despite glorious "football weather," probably suggests it may have been larger in Adelaide, but no amount of recriminations can disguise the fact that Adelaide City again "choked" under pressure, away from the friendly confines of their home pitch.

Last Sunday's elimination semi-final could hardly be classed in the vintage category.

It was a gritty, do-or-die contest which started sensationally with an early South Australian goal, but after that Grant Lee took charge and his two first-half goals were enough to seal it for Olympic, who now will have to do it the hard way as all their play-off games until the grand final will be away from home.

Paradoxically, Olympic will take heart from their Cup outing against Hellas.

Thought beaten at the end 4-1, Olympic dominated for most of the game and were only outplayed in the finishing department by Souths.

Ferenc Puskas cannot have been happy with his charges' inability to finish off an under-strength Melbourne Croatia last weekend.

South have had a dream run for most of the season, so perhaps they were due for a bad day.

Both sides will appreciate the week's rest after their recent hectic programme and the large crowd certain to attend Olympic Park, weather permitting, will get its money worth with two attack-oriented sides.

On paper, South Melbourne, again with home ground advantage, may feel they are

entitled to favouritism, but, flushed with success after tipping both winners last weekend, I will again go out on a limb and take the pumped up Olympic to qualify for the preliminary final.

Major semi final

Melbourne Croatia will welcome back Alan Davidson and Joe Biskic for their visit to Sydney — and they need all the help they can get against the defending champions.

Marconi appear to have played themselves into form at the right time, though the absence of crack marksman Zlatko Nastevski remains a sore point.

They now have to rely mainly on their midfielders, and even defenders, to get amongst the goals as they lack a full-blown striker with a nose for goals.

Croatia will certainly rue the loss of playmaker-cum-scorer Zeljko Adzic, whose decision to return to Croatia has not gone down well with the Victorian club's hardcore support.

You could, perhaps, go so far as to say that without Adzic it will be practically impossible for Croatia to win their first NSL title.

But the team did show against Souths that even well below strength it has fighting spirit to burn, and Marconi can expect 90 intense minutes.

However, I find it hard to believe they will not again rise to the occasion.

Marconi are the big-match team par excellence, and their experience in clutch situations is second to none.

Their goal scoring rate may be down without Nastevski, but all their other lines are intact — and that's bad news for their opponents.

With Tommy McCulloch, Jean-Paul de Marigny, Steve Calderan and Robbie Wheatley firing on all cylinders, goalkeeper Bob Catlin at the peak of his form, and Ian Gray again fully fit, I have to plump for the minor premiers to go straight into their third consecutive grand final.

David Seal is top QNSL scorer

BY LOU GAUTIER

CONGRATULATIONS to 18-year-old David Seal, whose three goals in the deferred Sydney Croatia v Wollongong City match last Saturday won him the 1989/90 QUIT National Soccer League goalscoring award.

The Croatia teenager ended the inaugural summer season with 15 goals, one more than St George's Tony Krslovic and Greg Brown, of Melita Eagles.

Krslovic scored twice in his team's 4-3 win, again in a deferred game, over Melita Eagles last Saturday.

In the course of that match, Brown also scored once to bring his tally to 14, level with Krslovic.

One can only speculate on how many goals last year's top scorer Zlatko Nastevski



DAVID SEAL

ki would have scored had he not been sidelined after 11 rounds when his goal tally was already 11.

And Apia's Rod Brown, too, would have come close to topping the scoring charts had he not missed nine rounds, but he still managed to poke the ball into the net 10 times.

The precocious David Seal becomes the youngest player to win the scoring award, and runner-up Krslovic is not all that older.

Well done, guys.

Coach is available

MICHAEL Urukalo, who coached Apia-Leichhardt in 1989, is looking for a club.

"I had hoped to settle in with NSW State League club Avala, but it didn't work out for various reasons," he said.

"Now I'm after a good club in as high a league as I can get."

Urukalo can be contacted on 02 727 5178.

Farrugia's sad farewell

MELITA Eagles stalwart Ray Farrugia left with his family on Monday afternoon to return to his native Malta to take up a player-coaching position with the Floriana club.

Together with wife Kate and children Sash (4) and Jamie (2), Ray was emotional about his departure after spending almost 12 years with Melita Eagles.

Farrugia, who played four internationals with Malta — against Tunisia in 1977 and against Spain and Holland in 1984 — left Sydney with fond memories.

Ray arrived from Malta on August 17, 1978 and has starred since as a midfielder with the Eagles.

Now at the age of 34, with his playing career coming towards a sunset, Farrugia hopes he will succeed in the coaching sphere in Malta.

Ray played his last match for Melita last Saturday against St George where his coach, Raul Blanco stated described him as a model player.

"Ray is a coach's dream player, always reliable, loyal and willing to serve his club to the best of his ability," he said.

"We will miss him but wish him and his family the very best in their new life in Malta."

JOHN ECONOMOS

FINAL TABLE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Marconi.....	26	16	6	4	51	24	38
South Melbourne.....	26	15	6	5	42	23	36
Melbourne Croatia.....	26	14	7	5	49	26	35
Adelaide City.....	26	13	8	5	39	23	34
Sydney Olympic.....	26	12	7	7	40	25	31

Apia Leichhardt.....	26	11	9	6	36	25	31
Sydney Croatia.....	26	10	6	10	40	39	26
Melita Eagles.....	26	10	6	10	31	31	26
Preston.....	26	9	5	12	33	35	23
St George.....	26	7	7	12	35	44	21
Wollongong City.....	26	8	4	14	30	48	20
Sunshine G.C.....	26	6	5	15	24	49	17

Adelaide Hellas.....	25	5	4	17	21	54	14
Blacktown City.....	26	4	4	18	30	55	12

Results

DEFERRED MATCHES

WOLLONGONG CITY 4 (D. Skeen 3, D. Petkovic, R. Easthorpe) SUNSHINE GEORGE CROSS 0 at Brandon Park. Crowd: 1049.
ST GEORGE 4 (T. Krslovic 2, Z. Ilic, M. Bingley) MELITA EAGLES 3 (M. Soper, G. Brown, H. Gimenez) at Melita Stadium. Crowd: 1198.
SYDNEY CROATIA 4 (D. Seal 3, P. Ricoy) WOLLONGONG CITY 0 at Croatian Sports Centre. Crowd: 710.

Top Scorers (Final)

David Seal	(Sydney Croatia)	15
Greg Brown	(Melita Eagles)	14
Tony Krslovic	(St George)	14
Abbas Saad	(Sydney Olympic)	12
Kimoni Taliadoros	(South Melbourne)	12
Peter Tzolakis	(South Melbourne)	12



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(Socceroo contender)



JOHN FILAN
(ASW award winner)



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(Cup winner)



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Gutsy Melbourne Croatia gets up

BY GREG BLAKE

MELBOURNE Croatia took approximately six days to exercise the ghost of Zeljko Adzic and the club's premiership path is paved with gold once more.

Croatia sat for and passed its biggest test of the season when it faced South Melbourne Hellas in front of over 10,000 fans in the preliminary semi-final at Olympic Park last Sunday and came out ahead, albeit on penalties.

Statistically Souths, without defeat for 14 league and Cup games before last weekend, held sway in what is certain to be recalled as one of the classics of the 1990 finals series.

But Croatia, minus skipper Josip Biskic,

the mercurial Alan Davidson and superman Adzic for the Victorian showdown, toughed it out to win 7-6 on penalties following a rivetting 1-1 extra time draw.

With Davo and Biskic set for a recall next week, only Adzic is missing from what used to be regarded as Croatia's best eleven.

After Sunday's clash all of a sudden Adzic just doesn't matter any more. Enter Ivan Duzel.

As Kimon Taliadoros' rather arrogantly taken penalty crashed against the woodwork to give victory to Croatia, it came as little surprise to see a sea of red-clad fans swamping a rather startled Duzel as he charged for the dressing rooms.

Stepping out of Adzic's shadow for the first time on Sunday, Duzel was as much the architect in Croatia's victory as any player on the park.

Until he finally succumbed to severe cramp and was substituted in the 103rd minute the explosive Duzel had done what few expected he could do.

In one particularly devastating period before half time the unassuming new star took centre stage, as Souths seemed set to take the game away and he single-handedly turned the match.

"Adzic, for me, is the best attacking midfielder in the country and it was hard to try and prove myself with him playing in my position," Duzel told ASW.

"Today Davo told me to just go out and play like I train and it seemed to come off."

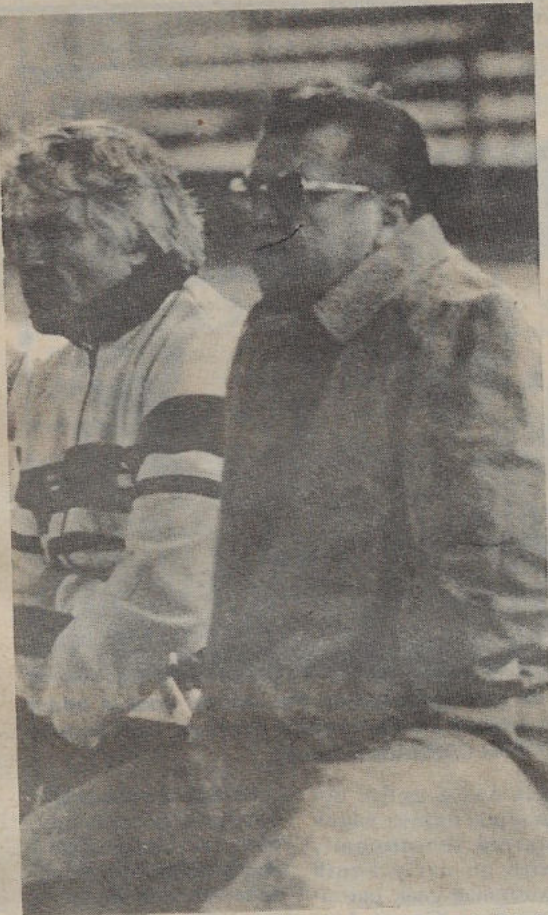
"Today has given me some confidence." Mind you, Duzel wasn't out on his own as best players were concerned.

George Hannah, the 32-year-old veteran who, before Sunday, had never managed to start a finals game, ended the day as man of the match.

Hannah completely blanketed Hellas dangerman Paul Trimboli, and it was he and the revitalised Theo Selemidis who guided Croatia through crucial periods in the opening 20 minutes and after half time.

Souths unleashed every bit of its considerable power in the early going as it seemed intent on trying to tear out Croatia's throat and kill off any challenge.

It might have worked had Trimboli been allowed to join the party and start his



Coach Ferenc Puskas on the South Melbourne bench against Sydney Olympic in the NSL Cup final — Photo CARLO DIELI.

team on the roll it had so enjoyed against Olympic four days beforehand.

But Hannah didn't allow the genius a sniff and used his spare time to gee up the likes of Andrew Marth, who had been completely destroyed by Peter Tsolakis in the early stages.

Both teams signalled their intent by sending out genuine three-man forward brigades with Hellas setting a cracking early pace and scoring with just seven minutes gone.

Mike Petersen set the goal up with a swiftly struck ball to Tsolakis and the pint-sized goal ace sent Marth the wrong way before rifling home a right-footer from 14 metres.

Duzel was in everything — he thumped a drive over the bar in the opening minutes, made and nearly finished off a 19th minute move which was thwarted by Bruce MacLaren and finally he got his reward by setting up Joe Caleta for the equaliser.

Charging out from his own half, Duzel put Caleta away with a touch pass down the left with Caleta charging past Healy and cutting inside before sending the ball spinning past MacLaren for 1-1.

Duzel's 33rd minute corner ended with Francis Awaritefe heading against the bar, Talajich hit the post and both Duzel and Marth put efforts within centimetres to end a half which had changed complexion dramatically.

But, just as dramatically, Hellas dragged

itself off the canvas after the break to the extent that in the final analysis it might well have taken the game.

When Steve Blair limped off injured 52 minutes in, South Melbourne's hopes looked in tatters.

With so many players — so sadly out of form — the most notable being Danny Wright and David Healy — few could have expected such heroics, particularly given that Hellas had battled its way through a cup final midweek.

But fight back it did and during the period between Blair's substitution and the end of extra-time it managed to produce five clear-cut chances to none.

The best of these came eight minutes from full-time as Healy set up Trimboli and the striker's final shot was deflected over by a desperate Marth.

In the end it came down to penalties but, as Hellas boss Ferenc Puskas was to say later, "that's football. One side must win; we could not play a draw."

"Penalties is luck." Given that is the case, then Croatia had it when the game came down to sudden death.

Marth was lucky to tuck his penalty shot away off the woodwork when the shoot-out was locked at 2-2 but the first miss came when Awaritefe shot wide at 4-4.

With the game at his mercy, Durakovic watched in horror as David Miller produced a dramatic finger-tip save.

Healy nearly stumbled at 6-6 when his

first effort was saved, but Miller was judged to have moved and Healy struck truly a second time.

Taliadoros stood alone in the evening gloom at round 6pm last Sunday.

At 7-6 in Croatia's favour Taliadoros had clipped a regulation spot-kick against the woodwork and Hellas, after three hours of gut-wrenching effort, had still failed to win its first finals match since 1985.

SOUTH MELBOURNE: MacLaren 6, Healy 5, Postecoglou 6, Durakovic 7, Blair 6 (Fernandes 52m), Wright 6 (Palatsides 105m), Petersen 7, Wade 5, Taliadoros 6, Trimboli 4, Tsolakis 7.

MELBOURNE CROATIA: Miller 7, Marth 5, Donnelly 6, Selemidis 7, Hannah 9, Duzel 8 (Horvat 103), Milosevic 6, Talajich 6, Awaritefe 5, Markovski 4 (Kelic 84), Caleta 6.

SCORERS: Tsolakis 7m for Sth Melb; Caleta 23m for Croatia (AET).

YELLOW CARDS: Durakovic 42m for South Melb; Caleta 28m, Duzel 97m for Croatia.

REFEREE: C. Bambridge 7.

CROWD: 10,130.



Saints end season on winning note

BY JOHN ECONOMOS

ST GEORGE brought down the curtain on their 1990 NSL programme with a 4-3 win in a deferred fixture against Melita Eagles at Melita Stadium last Saturday.

Saints opened the score in the seventh minute when Zoran Ilic headed home a Matthew Bingley cross but Melita equalised in the 14th minute in the same fashion when former Socceroo striker Marshall Soper from the left by midfielder Aytec Genc.

In the 16th minute Saints regained the lead following a corner from which Tony Krslovic scored whilst Brown at the other end just one minute later failed to equalise when he hit the post from close range.

Krslovic scored his second in the 22nd minute to lift St George to a 3-1 lead but midfielder Hugo Gimenez in the 28th minute pulled one

back for Melita with a cracking drive on the run from 16 metres.

Right on the half-hour mark, goal No 6 arrived with a Brown penalty shot following a foul inside the St George box when centre-back Alan Dean dropped Brown who had broken through.

Matthew Bingley made it 4-3 right on the hour mark when he streaked away down the left before unleashing a 15-metre angled drive that flashed low into the net.

MELITA: McPherson 6, Dickenson (O'Donnell 23m) 6, Barris 6, Gonzalez 6, Callanan 6, Mason 7, Farrugia 7, Gimenez 7, Genc 7, Soper 7, Brown 7 (Vial 51m).

ST GEORGE: Filan 7, Green 7, Dean 6, O'Shea 6, Koczka 6, Harper 6, Moffitt 7, Krslovic 8, Ilic 6, Bingley 6, El All 6.

SCORERS: Soper 14m, Gimenez 28m, Brown (penalty 30m) for Melita; Ilic 7m, Krslovic 16m and 22m, Bingley 60m for St George.

YELLOW CARDS: Ilic 24m for St George, Gimenez 27m for Melita.

REFEREE: M. Loupis 7.

CROWD: 1,198.

National youth team assembles

BY KEITH GILMOUR

THIRTY top-class youth players drawn from all over Australia will assemble at the Australian Institute of Sport next Monday to seek places in the national youth squad.

Coaches Eddie Thomson and Les Scheinflug will use the week to study the form of their young charges.

There will be a further camp at the AIS in June followed by a six-match tour of Asia.

The final squad competes in the Oceania qualification series for the World Youth Cup, with the first and second teams due to play a four-match series with the Israelis in February 1991.

The winner goes into the finals in Portugal in 1991.

Coach Scheinflug, who has handled most of the Australian youth teams, said: "The basis of the squad was selected by Frank Arok in February."

"A few alterations have been made to trial a few other players, and we will be looking closely to see what they can offer."

"I hope that we can get things firing from there."

Australia has been awarded the 1993 series, so a big effort and qualification for 1991 would have a major spin-off to build interest in the world's



MATT BINGLEY

leading soccer nations.

The 30 players comprising the present square are:

M. Bingley, J. Kakakios (St George), L. Kindtner (Sunshine GC), M. Schwarzer, P. Okon, J. Suzor (Marconi), C. Flaherty (Birkalla SA), B. Pullen (Olympia Tas), R. Sto-

jcevski (Altona Gate Vic), R. Talia, A. Pangallo, C. Jones, J. Koliba, S. Wells, B. Maloney, T. Cranney, G. Sorras, S. Romanuk, S. Block, R. Stanton, D. Hillier, S. Corica, K. Trajanovski (AIS), D. Seal, M. Babic, T. Popovic, A. French, Z. Kalac (Sydney Croatia), J. Rados (Melbourne Croatia), S. Becinovski (Melbourne City JUST).

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Olympic shocks City in sudden-death semi

BY JOHN ECONOMOS

SYDNEY OLYMPIC overcame a five-match marathon over the last 14 days and the indignity of a midweek Cup final thrashing to bounce back with a tenacious 2-1 win over Adelaide City in the QNSL sudden-death semi-final at Sydney's Parramatta Stadium on Sunday.

Sydney Olympic, greatly inspired by man of the match Grant Lee, completely dismantled the South Australians before a disappointing crowd of only 6861.

All three goals were scored in the first 34 minutes.

Lee cracked in both goals for Olympic while Aurelio Vidmar scored for the Adelaide club.

Olympic started the match in explosive style, firing two shots at the target in the opening three minutes.

Striker Abbas Saad struck from only 10 metres out, his shot shaving AdCity's left post and midfielder Robbie Ironside's powerful header from five metres flashed just over the crossbar sixty seconds later.

As has happened so often in the past, after missing such golden chances, ironically it was AdCity who opened the score in the seventh minute.

Left midfielder Vidmar twisted around an Olympic defender before unleashing a fabulous lethal lob-shot from 15 metres on an angle from the left into the far right corner of the net.

In fact, the luckless Vidmar could easily have finished the match with a hat-trick.

Six minutes from half-

time, following a corner on the right, Vidmar smashed his header centimetres past Olympic's left post.

ceroo goalkeeper, Robert Zabica, who was a doubtful starter after mystery dark spots covered his body, was

Olympic captain Robbie Hooker, who rarely fires in shots, again tried his luck in the 73rd minute with a blast from 20 metres, but 'Happy' Hooker could only manage to rock Adelaide's crossbar.

AdCity's usually most reliable midfield was completely neutralised by Olympic.

Lee especially did much to disconnect the Adelaide engine room by cutting infield from the flank with deep, devastating raids.

Olympic's twin strike-force of Edwards and Saad played extremely well, especially Saad in the first half.

The central defending duo of Andrew Bernal and Tony Dakos displayed great character to bottle up AdCity's strikers whilst both flank defenders, Barrett and Hooker, not only defended well but constantly contributed to the attack.

Lee gallantly led Olympic's midfield of Gary Phillips, Ironside and Steve Refenes into battle and once again Phillips, with his magnificent first-time ball service, did much to turn Adelaide defenders with monotonous regularity.

SYDNEY OLYMPIC: Gosling 7, Barrett 7, Dakos 7, Bernal 7, Hooker 7, Lee 9, Phillips 8, Ironside 7, Refenes 8 (Hristodoulou 89m), Saad 8, Edwards 7.

ADELAIDE CITY: Zabica 9, Shillabeer (Flounders 19m, 6), Tobin 6, Ivanovich 7, T. Vidmar 6, Mella 6, Santrac 6, Mullen 6, A. Vidmar 8, Maxwell 6, Veart 6 (Villani 6).

SCORERS: G. Lee 22m and 34m for Sydney Olympic; A. Vidmar 7m for Adelaide City.

YELLOW CARDS: Veart 8m, Santrac 40m for Adelaide City.

REFEREE: J. Fraser 7.

CROWD: 6861.



Goalkeeper Robert Zabica saves at the feet of Robbie Ironside, with Olympic's Abbas Saad and Alistair Edwards also menacing — photo HECTOR CARRASCO.

And with just three minutes left of play, following a free kick to the left of Olympic's penalty area, he watched in horror as David Barrett cleared his header off the goalline from just two metres out.

Lee then took over to help get Olympic out of jail with two glorious goals.

Lee scored his first in the 22nd minute with a cracking drive from 16 metres out after latching onto a top low cross from the right flank by right back Barrett.

Lee made it 2-1 in the 34th minute with some excellent, unselfish play by Ironside and Saad. Ironside split AdCity's cover with a great ball to Saad who held it up most intelligently till Lee raced up in support to hit the target from six metres out.

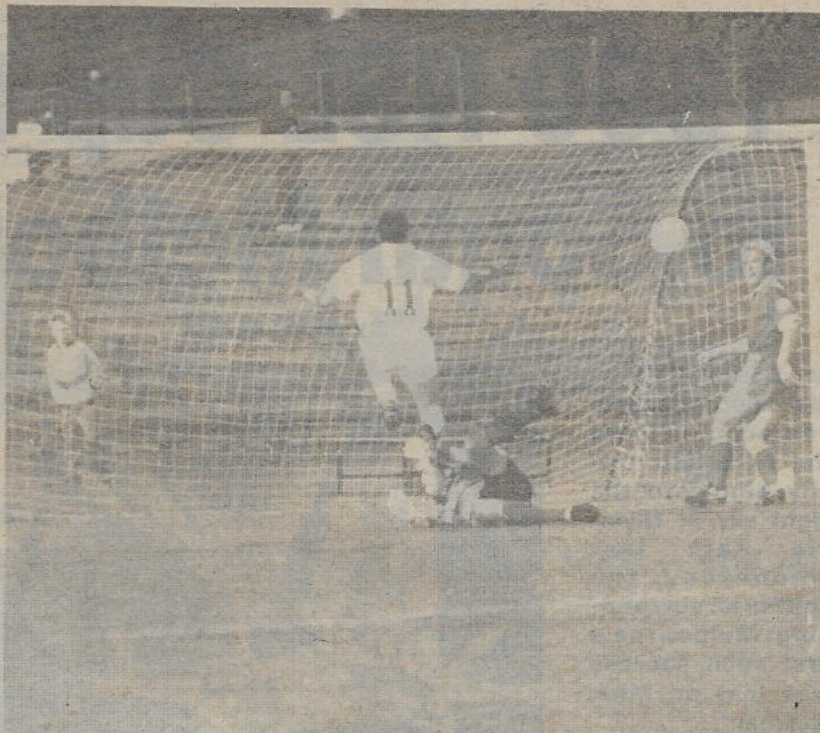
Adelaide City's Soc-

easily the South Australian hero.

Zabica stretched himself four times to pull off four magnificent saves in the second half to deny Olympic a wider winning margin and keep City well in the match.

Ironside's 52nd minute volley from six metres, Robbie Hooker's 25 metre rocket in the 57th minute, Steve Refenes' 20 metre blast in the 68th and Lee's 12 metre drive in the 72nd, were all brilliantly blocked by the agile, almost unbeatable Zabica.

Olympic threatened again in the 67th minute when centre-back Andrew Bernal knocked upfield to Saad. Saad spread it wide out to striker Alistair Edwards, who crossed back into the box but Saad's courageous diving header flashed just past Zabica's right post.



Peter Tsolakis knocks in number four in South Melbourne's NSL Cup final win last Wednesday — CARLO DIELI photo.

Coaches' Comments

BY JOHN ECONOMOS

Immediately after Sydney Olympic had pushed Adelaide City out of the Top Five series, the South Australians' dressing room, not surprisingly, was enveloped in cathedral-like silence.

Coach Zoran Matic stood silently in a corner with his arms behind his back, snarling.

"We couldn't have beaten a primary school team today with such a display. Even if Vidmar's header had gone in near the end, we didn't deserve to win," he said.

"Olympic played well. You just have to be honest and admit it."

When Matic was

asked whether he would dive into the transfer market in preparation for next season, he retorted, "No. We have no money to buy anyone."

In contrast, Sydney Olympic's dressing rooms had more life but still the players looked exhausted as they sat around absorbing their victory.

Olympic's placid coach, Mick Hickman, showed little joy as he quietly told us: "We have won nothing yet. We only live to fight another day."

"I was, however, most pleased with the result but I was always concerned about City catching us out on the break. We created and wasted many chances, but in the end I felt that we did dominate throughout."

"We must keep both our feet on the ground

as there is a very long way to go but the fact we have a week's rest is most satisfying."

Sydney Olympic had just completed a marathon of five matches in just 14 days.

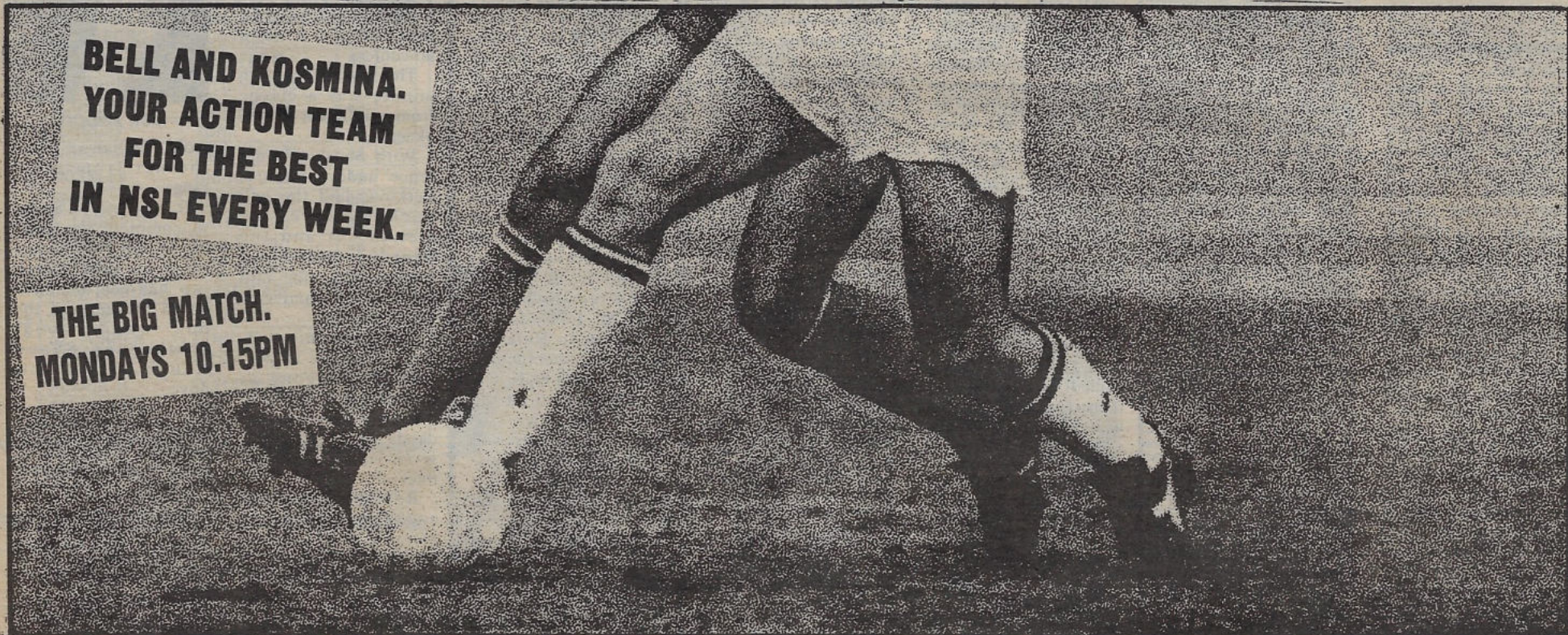
Olympic's goalscoring hero, Grant Lee, with boots and shirt stripped off and sitting drained of energy at the back of the dressing rooms, was humble in victory.

"I am pleased because the win helps avenge our two defeats by them, in the 1986 grand final and in the Cup final last year."

"It feels good. We are playing like a true team, with some really good football. We created plenty of good chances but their goalkeeper, Robert Zabica, was excellent."

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1990 NSL Cup final to South Melbourne

BY GREG BLAKE

AS South Melbourne skipper Angelo Postecoglou held the NSL Cup trophy high into the night sky at Olympic Park last Wednesday, the euphoria surrounding Melbourne's first such success was lost on Mick Hickman.

Hickman stood clear of the presentation area, quietly contemplating a quite remarkable defeat in an otherwise memorable Cup final for his Sydney Olympic side.

Seemingly impervious to the drizzling raindrops dripping down his face, the Olympic coach stood reflecting on the club's third successive defeat in major cup finals.

I could not help but be reminded of a similarly reflective Greg Norman, who stood by impassively



South Melbourne captain Angelo Postecoglou with the NSL Cup trophy — CARLO DIELI photo.

Skeen still unhappy

BY PHIL MURPHY

DAVID Skeen was still adamant he wants a transfer despite a man-of-the-match performance for Wollongong City last Wednesday.

Skeen scored two goals and was the midfield architect of the Wolves' win.

He has been in dispute with the club board since an altercation with the club secretary in the dressing room after the home game against South Melbourne.

As a result of that incident, Skeen was suspended for two weeks and stripped of the team captaincy.

Ironically, Skeen didn't miss any games because fixtures against Sunshine and Sydney Croatia were put off because of rain.

He said after playing against Sunshine that he is still angry with the way he was treated by the board.

"Things have happened at the club which have really brought Wollongong into disrepute and I mean on and off the field," he alleged.

"Nothing was done about them, yet I get suspended and lose the captaincy.

"I am playing in the last two games of the season because I have to fulfil my contract but I still want a

move." Wollongong Macedonia are known to be keen to sign Skeen and the Wolves have yet to



DAVID RATCLIFFE

put a transfer fee on him.

Wolves coach David Ratcliffe said he is disappointed Skeen still wants to leave the club.

"He has done a great job for me at full-back or in midfield," the coach said.

"I am just hoping that he changes his mind."

Skeen was recently given a memento of his 200th NSL game by the Wollongong club, having had a distinguished career with St George and the Wolves.

[A club official commented: "Unfortunately, these disciplinary measures crop up from time to time.

"A while ago there was a problem with Randell Easthorpe but that is now in the past.

"We hope this will be the case with David also." — Ed]

after his 1987 US Masters' defeat at the hands of Larry Mize, whose miracle chip-in on the second play-off hole had robbed Norman of yet another major.

"I just can't figure this game out," Norman told the world's press.

I guess Mick Hickman was thinking much the same after watching his team collapse to a record 4-1 defeat in a game it might well have won.

And from the morale aspect, it is a game it might well have needed to win.

After all, Olympic, which lost last year's Cup final to Adelaide City, the grand final to Marconi and now the 1990 Cup to Souths, must face all three again if it has any hope of winning this season's championship.

Hickman desperately tried to find positive aspects in his side's performance but there could have been little consolation to be found in playing well and getting thrashed.

"I thought we controlled the game for 75 minutes and to get beaten 4-1 sounds like a hiding," Hickman told ASW.



"It wasn't, MacLaren made a couple of vital saves just after half-time which could have turned the game our way.

"Then, they went down and scored a sloppy goal, which turned the game upside-down.

"The scoreline is flattering to Souths, but you can't take anything away from them. Goals are the name of the game."

Portly South Melbourne supremo Ferenc Puskas seemed to shy away from the otherwise boisterous celebrations in the Hellas rooms.

"Olympic played well but at the same time my boys made too many mistakes," he admitted.

"After 10 minutes of the second half, we began to play open football and after three goals in five minutes the team played very well.

"But I was never confident until the final whistle."

SOUTH MELBOURNE: MacLaren 8, Healy 6, Postecoglou 6, Durakovic 8, Blair 7, Wade 6, Petersen 6, Wright 6 (Palatsides 84m), Tsolakis 7, Trimboli 6, Taliadoros 7.

SYDNEY OLYMPIC: Gosling 6, Barrett 6, Hooker 8, Dakos 6, Bernal 7, Lee 7, Phillips 6, Ironside 7, Refenes 8 (Perinovic 82m), Saad 6, Edwards 8.

SCORERS: Taliadoros 21m, Petersen 71m, Trimboli 72m (pen), Tsolakis 86m for South Melbourne; Edwards 27m for Sydney Olympic.

YELLOW CARDS: Bernal 14m for Sydney Olympic.

REFEREE: J. Santa-Isabel 8.

CROWD: 8790 at Olympic Park, Melbourne.

SHOTS ON TARGET: SMH 8, SO 12; **SHOTS OFF TARGET:** SMH 5, SO 7; **FREEKICKS:** SMH 5, SO 9; **CORNERS:** SMH 5, SO 7.

Cup Final Highlights

BY GREG BLAKE



SOUTH Melbourne has been spouting for weeks that it is playing badly and still winning.

That's an ominous sign, particularly after seeing South Melbourne stumbling and bumbling its way through much of the first half of Anzac Day's NSL Cup final against Sydney Olympic before it sparked and powered away to a 4-1 win.

If this is Hellas playing poorly, heaven help any side which gets in its way if it finds form during the QNSL finals series.

Olympic came to Melbourne with much in its favour, notwithstanding the fact that Victorian clubs have come to grief in seven previous cup finals.

Olympic even brought with it a dose of Sydney's wet and windy weather.

In the end it did not help one little bit even given that Olympic all but ran the show for the first hour.

Making the most of some glaring unforced errors, Olympic easily thwarted Souths at every turn and with Abbas Saad and the mercurial Alistair Edwards posing ever-present danger, Souths looked light years from being on course for the league and cup double.

But an extraordinary Kim Taliadoros goal against the run of the play in the 21st minute eventually broke the deadlock.

Taliadoros beat one defender before twisting and turning Andrew Bernal and curling a spectacular right footer home from 12 metres.

Six minutes later, Edwards, until then the man of the match, equalised with an equally spectacular goal as he produced a powerful 18-metre effort to beat Bruce MacLaren.

The two rousing goals served as a prelude to an inspired half hour of cup football which, although controlled by a Sydney side fired up by the deeds of Edwards and young Steve Refenes, produced spectacular action at both ends.

Paul Trimboli hit the post after a Peter Tsolakis freekick was well stopped by Clint Gosling. Paul Wade had a header cleared off the line and MacLaren made the first of a succession of quality stops from Refenes just on half-time.

Saad, Grant Lee, Refenes and Edwards will all look back with regret that they did not put the best of finishing touches in during Olympic's second half purple

patch. The misses, MacLaren's brilliance and Mehmet Durakovic's goal-line clearance were as much responsible for Hellas' eventual victory as any of the goals yet to come.

Mike Petersen was remarkably frank about the 71st minute freak goal which turned the tide in South Melbourne's favour.

"I'd done nothing for the whole game and I could not believe it when the ball went in," he admitted.

"I'll have to see the replay to see how I scored..."

The goal came from an inspired through ball from Wade to Petersen, with the latter spearing the ball past Gosling and seemingly toward the touchline.

Petersen slid in to hook the ball back and, without so much as daylight to be seen between the posts

from that angle, managed to send the ball spinning into the empty net.

The killer goal came just a minute later when Wade was pushed from behind by Robbie Ironside as he ran to meet Danny Wright's pass inside the area.

Trimboli converted the penalty kick to make it 3-1 and Tsolakis rounded off a memorable night for the Melbourne club by clipping a shot under the hapless Gosling with six minutes remaining.

South Melbourne rewrote the record books.

It posted its best-ever win over Olympic and the 4-1 scoreline was the biggest in NSL Cup final history.

Wolves' high note

Wollongong lost two key midfielders with injuries in the opening 19 minutes but still overpowered a lethargic Sunshine 4-0 in Wednesday's deferred match at Brandon Park.

Danny Crainie and Jerry Murphy became Anzac Day casualties in the face of some tough tackling but that didn't stop the Wolves turning on some stylish football.

Jeff Allport and youngster Danny Petkovic took over from the wounded midfielders and once the home team scored their first goal it was a no-contest.

That goal in the 38th minute was a classic from midfielder David Skeen.

With Sunshine's defence under pressure, Petkovic laid the ball back to Skeen 30 metres out and the bearded midfielder sent it screaming into the top left-hand corner of the net.

With Sunshine always struggling to contain Wollongong in midfield, a second goal was always on the cards and it arrived seven minutes after the interval.

Randell Easthorpe and Zivko Hristovski played a good one-two up the middle. The ball was sent wide to the energetic Skeen and his deep cross was headed home by Petkovic.

Skeen again was involved in number three, reaching Paul McFadden on the right and from McFadden's



Jeff Allport

cross, Easthorpe found the net from close range.

It was left to Skeen to complete the scoring in the 77th minute when he shrugged off two half-hearted tackles in the edge of the box and beat goalkeeper Shaun Keogh with a low drive.

WOLLONGONG CITY: Bouhoutsos 5, Skeen 8, Ratcliffe 6, Morlando 5, McEvoy 5, Hristovski 5, McFadden 6, Brodnik 5, Easthorpe 5, Murphy (Allport 15m) 4, Crainie (Petkovic 19m 5').

SUNSHINE: Keogh 4, Fabrizio 5, Alevisos 4, Waddell 6, Parton 5, C Foster 5, Kindtner 4, Campelj (Zacharias 68m) 4, Tapai 7, P Foster (Attard 63m) 4, Hasler 5.

SCORERS: Skeen 38m, Petkovic 52m, Easthorpe 64m, Skeen 77m for Wollongong.

YELLOW CARDS: Crainie 16m, Morlando 33m, Hristovski 83 for Wollongong; C Foster 13m, Hasler 59m, Parton 83m for Sunshine.

REFEREE: B. Monteverde 6.

CROWD: 1049.

SOCCER POOLS



THE POOLS RESULTS HISTORY AT 28/4/90 — WEEK 248

NO. OF TIMES EACH NUMBER OCCURRED												NO. OF WEEKS SINCE EACH NUMBER OCCURRED									
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
25	31	38	45	50	55	60	65	70	75	80	85	90	95	100	105	110	115	120	125	130	135
45	56	49	51	45	49	50	44	0	1	5	7	14	0	15	0	4					
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	3	3				
47	45	35	51	47	51	52	48	0	4	8	4	2	0	3	4						
25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32						
47	55	53	62	54	71	52	51	2	5	1	3	2	1	1	13						
33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40						
49	65	56	65	52	52			17	0	3	6	5	1								

Results History is from Week 38, the start of Six from 38 Pools

THIS WEEK'S MATCH LIST WEEK 249

SAT. 5th MAY, 1990

ENGLISH DIVISION 1	CRYSTAL P.	MAN. CITY	1
	DERBY	LUTON	2
	MAN. UTD.	CHARLTON	3
	MILLWALL	CHELSEA	4
	Q.P.R.	WIMBLEDON	5
ENGLISH DIVISION 2	SHEFF. WED.	NOTTINGHAM F.	6
	TOTTENHAM	SOUTHAMPTON	7
	BLACKBURN	BRIGHTON	8
	BOURNEMOUTH	LEEDS	9
	BRADFORD C.	PLYMOUTH	10
ENGLISH DIVISION 3	LEICESTER	SHEFF. UTD.	11
	MIDDLESBRO	NEWCASTLE	12
	OXFORD UTD.	PORT VALE	13
	PORTSMOUTH	BARNLEY	14
	STOKE	SWINDON	15
ENGLISH DIVISION 4	SUNDERLAND	OLDHAM	16
	WATFORD	HULL	17
	WEST BROM.	IPSWICH	18
	WEST HAM	WOLVES	19
	BIRMINGHAM	READING	20
ENGLISH DIVISION 5	BLACKPOOL	BRISTOL R.	21
	BRISTOL R.	ROTHERHAM	22
	BRISTOL C.	WALSALL	23
	BURY	CARDIFF	24
	CREWE	WIGAN A.	25
ENGLISH DIVISION 6	FULHAM	LEYTON O.	26
	HUDDERSFIELD	CHESTER	27
	NOTTS C.	MANSFIELD	28
	ROTHERHAM	NORTHAMPTON	29
	SHREWSBURY	PRESTON	30
ENGLISH DIVISION 7	SWANSEA	BOLTON	31
	TRANMERE	BRENTFORD	32
	ALDERSHOT	CAMBRIDGE U.	33
	CHESTERFIELD	GRIMSBY	34
	COLCHESTER	BURNLEY	35
ENGLISH DIVISION 8	HALIFAX	STOCKPORT	36
	LINCOLN	EXETER	37
	MAIDSTONE	CARLISLE	38
	PETERBORO	SOUTHEND	39
	ROCHDALE	HEREFORD	40
ENGLISH DIVISION 9	SCARBORO	GILLINGHAM	41
	SCUNTHORPE	DONCASTER	42
	TORQUAY	YORK	43
	WREXHAM	HARTLEPOOL	44
	MOSSLEY	BISHOP AUK.	45
ENGLISH DIVISION 10	RHYL	SOUTHPORT	46
	S. LIVERPOOL	GATESHEAD	47
	WITTON A.	GAINSBORO	48
	DUNDEE	MOTHERWELL	49
	DUNFERMLINE	HIBERNIAN	50
ENGLISH DIVISION 11	HEARTS	RANGERS	51
	ST. MIRREN	DUNDEE U.	52
	AIRDRIE	HAMILTON	53
	ALBION R.	CLYDEBANK	54
	ALLOA	AYR	55

RESERVE MATCHES

ENGLISH DIVISION 12	PETERBORO	SOUTHEND	39
	ROCHDALE	HEREFORD	40
	SCARBORO	GILLINGHAM	41
	SCUNTHORPE	DONCASTER	42
	TORQUAY	YORK	43
ENGLISH DIVISION 13	WREXHAM	HARTLEPOOL	44
	MOSSLEY	BISHOP AUK.	45
	RHYL	SOUTHPORT	46
	S. LIVERPOOL	GATESHEAD	47
	WITTON A.	GAINSBORO	48
ENGLISH DIVISION 14	DUNDEE	MOTHERWELL	49
	DUNFERMLINE	HIBERNIAN	50
	HEARTS	RANGERS	51
	ST. MIRREN	DUNDEE U.	52
	AIRDRIE	HAMILTON	53
ENGLISH DIVISION 15	ALBION R.	CLYDEBANK	54
	ALLOA	AYR	55
	PETERBORO	SOUTHEND	39
	ROCHDALE	HEREFORD	40
	SCARBORO	GILLINGHAM	41

* SCOTTISH B&Q DIVISION 1

* Winning match numbers and supplementary number.

RESULTS AND DIVIDEND HOTLINES

Phone: 00555 0787 Australia Wide. Or, Sydney (02) 11520; Melbourne (03) 11521; Brisbane (07) 11699; Adelaide (08) 11521; Perth (09) 11520.

Results are available from 8pm. Sundays, dividends after 5pm Mondays.

Jackpot this week est \$300,000

MATCH RESULTS

WEEK 248

SAT. 28th APRIL, 1990

ENGLISH DIVISION 1	ARSENAL	MILLWALL	1	2-0
	ASTON VILLA	NORWICH	2	3-3*
	CHARLTON	SHEFF. WED.	3	1-2
	CHELSEA	EVERTON	4	2-1
	LIVERPOOL	Q.P.R.	5	2-1
ENGLISH DIVISION 2	LUTON	CRYSTAL P.	6	1-0
	MAN. CITY	DERBY	7	0-1
	WIMBLEDON	TOTTENHAM	8	1-0
	BARNLEY	WEST BROM.	9	2-2*
	BRIGHTON	STOKE	10	1-4
ENGLISH DIVISION 3	HULL	BRADFORD C.	11	2-1
	IPSWICH	BLACKBURN	12	3-1
	LEEDS	LEICESTER	13	2-1
	PLYMOUTH	WATFORD	14	0-0*
	PORT VALE	PORTSMOUTH	15	1-1*
ENGLISH DIVISION 4	SHEFF. UTD.	BOURNEMOUTH	16	4-2
	SWINDON	MIDDLESBRO	17	1-1*
	WOLVES	SUNDERLAND	18	0-1
	BOLTON	BRISTOL C.	19	1-0
	BRENTFORD	BLACKPOOL	20	5-0
ENGLISH DIVISION 5	BRISTOL R.	SHREWSBURY	21	1-0
	CARDIFF	FULHAM	22	3-3*
	CHESTER	ROTHERHAM	23	2-0
	LEYTON O.	BIRMINGHAM	24	1-2
	MANSFIELD	CREWE	25	2-1
ENGLISH DIVISION 6	NORTHAMPTON	HUDDERSFIELD	26	1-0
	PRESTON	SWANSEA	27	2-0
	READING	BURY	28	1-0
	WALSALL	TRANMERE	29	2-1
	BURNLEY	SCUNTHORPE	30	0-1
ENGLISH DIVISION 7	CARLISLE	TORQUAY	31	2-0
	DONCASTER	ROCHDALE	32	4-0
	EXETER	SCARBORO	33	3-2
	GILLINGHAM	LINCOLN	34	1-1*
	GRIMSBY	WREXHAM	35	5-1
ENGLISH DIVISION 8	HARTLEPOOL	ALDERSHOT	36	2-0
	HEREFORD	PETERBORO	37	1-2
	STOCKPORT	CHESTERFIELD	38	



RESULTS OF WEEK 248 SAT 28 APRIL, 1990

Total Prize Pool is \$216,328.80
Winning Match Numbers (in numerical order): 2, 9, 15, 17, 22, 34.
Supplementary Number: 14

Division 1
The Prize Pool is \$140,632.35
No Winner. Jackpot Week 249
(est \$300,000 next week)

Division 2
There are no winners therefore
the prize pool is distributed
amongst division 3 winners.

Division 3
The Prize Pool is \$17,306.75
37 winners of \$467.75ea

Division 4
The Prize Pool is \$32,440.70
1,838 winners of \$17.65ea

Division 5
The Prize Pool is \$25,949.00
2,359 winners of \$11.00ea

BRITISH SOCCER RESULTS AND TABLES

ENGLISH DIVISION ONE							DIVISION FOUR										
	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts										
Liverpool	36	21	10	5	71	36	73	Exeter	44	26	5	13	76	46	83		
Aston Vill	37	21	6	10	54	35	69	Gdmbsy	45	22	13	10	70	45	79		
Tottenham	37	18	6	13	57	46	60	Southend	45	21	9	15	59	47	72		
Arsenal	36	17	7	12	50	35	58	Stockport	45	20	11	14	66	61	71		
Everton	37	17	7	13	54	43	58	Carlisle	45	21	8	16	59	55	71		
Chelsea	37	15	12	10	55	49	57	Maldstone	45	21	7	17	72	59	70		
Southamp	36	15	10	11	69	55	55	Peterboro	45	17	17	11	58	44	68		
Norwich	37	13	13	11	42	40	52	Lincoln	45	18	14	13	47	43	68		
Wimbledon	35	12	15	8	44	37	51	Chesterfield	44	18	13	13	60	49	67		
QPR	37	13	11	13	43	41	50	Cambridge	43	18	10	15	68	65	64		
Cyventry	37	14	7	16	38	53	49	York	45	16	15	14	54	52	63		
Notts Fst	36	13	9	14	48	47	48	Rochdale	45	19	6	20	47	53	63		
Man City	37	12	11	14	41	50	47	Scunthorpe	44	16	14	14	64	52	62		
Derby	36	13	7	16	41	36	46	Gillingham	44	16	11	17	44	46	59		
Man Utd	35	12	8	15	45	43	44	Torquay	45	15	11	19	52	65	56		
Crystal Pal	36	12	8	16	39	64	44	Scarboro	45	15	10	20	60	72	55		
Sheff Wed	37	11	10	16	35	48	43	Burnley	44	13	14	17	42	52	53		
Luton	37	9	13	15	40	35	40	Hereford	44	14	10	20	52	57	52		
Charlton	37	7	9	21	31	56	30	Hartlepool	45	14	10	21	64	87	52		
Millwall	37	5	11	21	38	62	26	Doncaster	45	14	9	22	52	56	51		
DIVISION TWO								Wrexham	45	13	12	20	50	65	51		
Leeds	45	23	13	9	78	52	82	Aldershot	44	12	14	18	49	65	50		
Sheff Utd	44	23	12	9	73	56	81	Halifax	45	12	13	20	56	63	49		
Newcastle	45	22	14	9	79	51	80	Colchester	44	11	10	23	47	69	43		
Swindon	45	20	13	12	78	58	73	SCOTTISH PREMIER DIV									
Blackburn	44	19	15	10	73	58	72	Rangers	35	20	10	5	47	18	50		
Sunderland	44	19	14	11	66	60	71	Hearts	35	16	11	8	53	34	43		
West Ham	44	18	12	14	73	56	66	Aberdeen	35	16	10	9	53	32	42		
Ipswich	44	18	12	14	66	55	66	Celtic	35	10	14	11	36	34	34		
Oldham	42	17	12	13	61	61	66	Dundee Utd	35	11	12	12	36	39	34		
Port Vale	44	15	15	14	61	52	63	Hibernian	35	12	9	14	33	40	33		
Leicester	44	15	14	15	64	51	60	Motherwell	35	10	12	13	41	46	32		
Portsmouth	45	14	16	15	60	60	58	Dunfermlin	35	11	7	17	36	49	29		
Hull	44	13	16	15	53	59	55	St Mirren	35	10	9	16	28	48	29		
Watford	45	13	15	17	55	59	54	Dundee	35	5	14	16	40	63	24		
Oxford	44	15	8	21	56	62	53	DIVISION ONE									
Brighton	45	15	8	22	55	71	53	St Johnst	38	24	8	6	80	39	56		
Plymouth	45	13	19	17	67	63	52	Airdrie	38	22	8	8	74	44	52		
WBA	45	12	15	18	66	68	51	Falkirk	38	14	15	9	59	45	43		
Barnsley	44	12	15	17	47	69	51	Clydebank	38	16	10	12	72	63	42		
Bournemouth	45	12	12	21	57	75	48	Rath	38	15	11	12	55	49	41		
Middlesbro	44	12	11	21	48	61	47	Hamilton	30	14	13	11	51	50	41		
Bradford	44	9	13	22	43	66	40	Partick	38	12	13	13	61	52	37		
Stoke	45	6	18	21	34	62	36	Meadow	38	12	13	13	40	46	37		
DIVISION THREE								Morton	38	9	16	13	36	43	34		
Brist City	44	26	10	8	72	37	88	Ayr	38	11	12	15	41	62	34		
Brist Rov	44	24	15	5	65	35	87	Clyde	38	9	15	14	36	44	33		
Notts City	44	22	11	9	68	50	83	Forfar	38	8	15	15	51	64	29		
Tranmere	44	23	9	12	84	47	78	Albion	38	8	11	19	49	76	27		
Bury	45	20	11	14	68	49	71	Alloa	38	6	12	20	41	70	24		
Bolton	44	18	13	13	57	46	67	Note: Forfar deducted two points for fielding ineligible players.									
Birmingham	45	18	12	15	60	58	66	DIVISION TWO									
Huddersfild	44	16	13	15	55	59	61	Brechin	38	19	10	9	59	44	48		
Rotherham	44	16	12	16	68	61	60	Kilmarnock	38	21	4	13	65	38	48		
Reading	43	14	18	11	53	49	60	Stirling	38	19	7	12	71	50	45		
Shrewsbury	45	15	15	15	57	54	60	Stenhousem	38	18	8	12	59	49	44		
Crewe	44	14	17	13	52	48	59	Dumbarton	38	15	10	13	70	72	40		
Brentford	44	17	6	21	62	63	57	Cwdnhtn	38	13	13	12	57	52	39		
Orient	45	15	10	20	50	55	55	Berwick	38	17	5	16	61	57	39		
Mansfield	45	16	7	22	48	61	55	East Fife	38	12	12	14	60	61	36		
Chester	45	13	15	17	42	51	54	Stranraer	38	14	8	16	53	58	36		
Wigan	45	13	14	18	46	61	53	Qo' O'sh	38	11	13	14	57	68	35		
Preston	45	14	10	21	45	57	52	Arbroath	38	12	10	16	47	56	34		
Swansea	43	14	10	19	42	59	52	Queens Pk	38	12	10	16	39	31	34		
Fulham	45	12	15	18	54	64	51	Montrose	38	10	11	17	52	62	31		
Cardiff	44	11	14	19	48	66	47	E Strirling	38	8	9	21	34	66	22		
Blackpool	44	10	15	19	47	68	45										
Northampton	43	10	13	20	48	65	43										
Walsall	44	9	13	22	39	67	40										

Victorian Super League fate decided Thursday

BY GREG BLAKE

A Victorian Soccer Federation special general meeting on May 3 will decide the fate of the long overdue State 'Super League'.

Plans for a 12-team Super League have fallen through in successive years, most recently after an historic Supreme Court case ruled in favour of five

dissenting clubs on the eve of the 1990 season.

But a Super League seems set to go ahead in season 1991 if VSF eligible members and their nominees vote for the proposal at the meeting.

Voting will be on proposed changes to the VSF constitution to allow for the formation of such a competition.

It was the existing

constitution which formed the basis for the Supreme Court decision in favour of the five clubs which faced missing the 1990 Super League cut.

The crucial portion of the proposed new text of the VSF constitution changes is as follows:

4. Reconstitution of State League and other related matters.

4.1 That the State League shall be divided into two (2) Divisions as from the commencement of the playing season 1991.

4.2 That the Board of Management of the Federation shall from time to time by resolution prescribe the number of Clubs that shall play in the various Divisions of the Competitions conducted by the Federation.

4.3 That the following transitional provisions shall apply for the playing season 1991:

(i) That the clubs forming the Upper Division of the State League in the year 1991 shall be such number as has been decided by the Board of Management of the Federation, and shall be placed in the Upper Division of the State League Competition on the basis of their finishing position in the State League Championship Competition conducted in the year 1990, and further shall include any Club that shall during the 1990 season be relegated from the National Soccer League.

(ii) That the balance of such Clubs not included in the Upper Division of the State League shall be placed in the Lower Division of the State League competition and other such Clubs as are required to complete the composition of the Lower Division of the State League. Such other Clubs shall be the Clubs from the First Division of the Victorian League in the order of their finishing on the 1990 Championship table, provided they meet the grounds and facilities criteria for State League Clubs.

(iii) That at the end of the playing year 1990 no relegation from the State League shall take place, however, promotion from the First Division of the Victorian League to the Lower Division of the State League shall take place.

(iv) That at the end of the 1990 season, and for that year only, the last two (2) teams finishing in each of the four (4) Divisions of the Victorian League shall not be relegated to a lower Division. However, promotion of the two (2) top finishing teams of each Division shall take place in accordance with Sub Rule 5.2 of these Rules.

Demons may bounce back in the summer

BY MIKE JOHNSON

BLACKTOWN City appear once more to be embarked on a young player programme as they prepare to take the plunge again into the shallow waters of State League soccer.

Blacktown has always seemed out of its depth in National League. It should not have been.

The club's background and infrastructure suggest that it should always have been able to hold down a mid-table position in the top league.

However, once more it is embarked on a season of State League and once more its current coach has declared he will do so using "young players".

This time the coach is Tony Henderson, ex-Marconi and national team star who did a good job with Avala last year, taking them to third place in State League in his first year as a coach.

The use of young players at Blacktown is probably the principal reason why Blacktown has struggled in recent years.

Blacktown City is located in a highly populated area of Sydney's western suburbs and has long let it be known that it would develop and use its own local players.

It has concentrated much finance into this laudable goal, with its youth teams always figuring high in the competition tables.

Additionally, quite a number of its youth players have gone on to play in the City first team. Unfortunately, the plan has not produced the needed first team results.

The prime reason is that young players, if they predominate in a team, will rarely produce good results in a high level of soccer.

The facts are that young players are usually not as skilful as mature players, not as strong, not as resilient, not as fit, nor as dependable, competitive, stable, committed, nor as knowledgeable.

Young players are usually enthusiastic, energetic and brave, but much more than that is needed to produce winning teams in top soccer.

The appointment of Les Scheinflug three years ago to take charge of Blacktown City's first team gave the club access to some of the best young players in the country.

Many were national under 19 players, hand-picked by Les who knew them intimately as their national coach.

Despite his great experience and proven ability as a coach, they could not produce results for him.

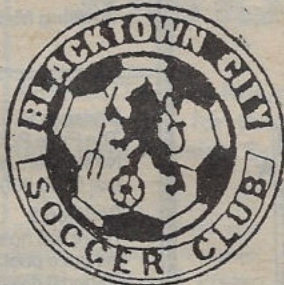
"But they did for Frank Arok" some may say.

However, if you look at the staff at St George you will find that while there may be several young players in the team at a given time, they have always been backed up by experienced players of exceptional ability.

Mike Gibson, David Green, Andrew Koczka, David Ratcliffe, Mike Grbevski, Kevin Hagan, Scott Ollerenshaw, Craig Moffitt, Mike O'Shea — these players are all internationals, excellent players who have been able to carry the 'kids' as Arok calls the younger brigade whom he has kept introducing SELECTIVELY over recent years.

Only this year, because of injuries and defections, has Arok been unable to keep to his successful formula and he almost paid the price.

For Blacktown, fortunate to escape relegation last year, 1990



has been another year facing almost certain relegation, with too much youth in their first team and not sufficient class to back it up.

Even Paul Carter and Charlie Yankos were not sufficient to lift what was essentially a State League team playing in National League.

The year 1990 has not been good for Blacktown, with the resignation of driving force Peter Thorne being hard to accommodate.

Nevertheless, they have a good team now for State League and could jump back straight away from the cold of a State League winter to bask once more in the sunny environs of summer national league soccer in September.

They will have opposition from provincial cities Canberra, Newcastle and Wollongong.

Wollongong's Macedonia, perhaps unlike Canberra and Newcastle, will have to play their way into the National League.

They are bracing themselves to do just that and at this time have a playing staff possibly superior to Quit National League neighbour, Wollongong Wolves.

This staff certainly is not built on young local players for which it has received criticism from some of its fans.

However, former Blacktown coach Casey de Bruin is very happy with the excellent squad of experienced players whom he hopes will take his club up to National League come the warmer months.

Youth Expo

BY GREG BLAKE

MELBOURNE is hosting the first Australia-Japan Youth Expo and Fair and as part of the celebrations soccer is expected to play its role in the proceedings.

World Window Japan, the organising body for the Expo, is looking for local soccer clubs and teams to participate in the festival, which begins in August.

The sports stream of the Expo will be known as the Friendship Games and soccer is expected to play a prominent part alongside such other sports as rugby, badminton, basketball, sailing, table tennis, cycling, swimming, rowing, volleyball, karate and softball.

The Friendship Games commence on August 8 and run until August 14.

World Window is hoping for a positive response from the local community for its new venture which gives the chance for young Australians to be involved in a range of sporting events and competitions with Japanese sporting teams.

The Friendship Games will commence with a special opening ceremony at Olympic Park and Melbourne's soccer headquarters is just one of a number of premier sporting venues in the city which will be utilised for the various competitions.

A spokesperson for the World Window organisation told ASW that any local soccer teams with members aged between 12 and 25 years of age would be most welcome to become involved.

For any further information call the World Window organisation in Melbourne on 03 521 3500.

World Window is located at Level 8, West Tower, 608 St Kilda Rd, Melbourne 3004.

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BIRTHPLACE & DATE: 13/10/65 —

Montenegro

HEIGHT & WEIGHT: 174cm, 70kg

MARRIED: Yes, to Zumreta.

HOME: Ardeer, Vic.

NICKNAME: Mem'

CAR: Commodore

OCCUPATION: VDU operator

PREVIOUS CLUBS: Melbourne JUST,

Juventus, and Port Melbourne.

FAVOURITE OVERSEAS PLAYERS: Franco Baresi, Franz Beckenbauer and Pele.

FAVOURITE LOCAL PLAYER: Steve Blair.

MOST DIFFICULT OPPONENT: Abbas Saad and Warren Spink.

FAVOURITE GROUND: Middle Park.

MOST MEMORABLE GAME: Juventus v

Sydney City in the 1985 NSL Grand Final.

BIGGEST THRILL: Putting on an Aussie jersey against Malmo FF.

BIGGEST DISAPPOINTMENT: Relegation two years in a row with Juventus and JUST.

WORST INJURY: Dislocated shoulder (six weeks out) and broken thumb (six weeks)

FAVOURITE POSITION: Sweeper or right back.

FAVOURITE OTHER SPORTS: Tennis, golf,

cricket.

FAVOURITE FOOD: Pasta, steak and chips.

FAVOURITE DRINK: Southern Comfort and Coke.

FAVOURITE MUSIC: Rock.

FAVOURITE TV SHOW: Who's the Boss and Growing Pains.

FAVOURITE MOVIE: Top Gun

BEST FRIEND: Joe Palatsides and Mike Petersen.

BIGGEST INFLUENCE ON CAREER: Manfred Schaefer, Len McKendry and John Margaritis.

AMBITIONS: Top keep playing as long as I can and to represent Australia

PRE-MATCH SUPERSTITIONS: None.

MOST PROMISING TEAM-MATE: Michael Michaelokopoulos.

PERSON YOU'D MOST LIKE TO MEET: Franz Beckenbauer.

Compiled by GREG BLAKE

Venglos on SBS-TV

CURRENT Czechoslovakian World Cup coach Joe Venglos will be interviewed by ace English commentator Martin Tyler on SBS-TV's 'Viva World Cup' programme on Thursday at 7.30pm.

Venglos, who is the red-hot favourite to fill the vacant Socceroo position, was inter-

viewed while in London for his country's friendly against England, which they lost 4-2 on Anzac Day.

Game still promises but it is time to deliver

BY KEITH GILMOUR

IN a recent national survey, no less than 32% of respondents professed an interest in soccer.

Quite a remarkable figure, which places soccer not that far behind Australian rules (45%) and rugby league (38%) and well ahead of rugby union (23%).

In Sydney soccer's percentage rose to 36%, with 39% for males (36%) and 25% for females.

Twenty nine per cent of those questioned said they watched TV soccer, as against Australian rules (42%), rugby league (36%) and rugby union (21%).

Cricket rated 55% and basketball 38%.

The football codes, cricket and basketball were not unexpectedly tops for team sports.

For soccer the task is to turn more interest into a situation where there are more wildly enthusiastic fans.

This should call for the licensing of clubs under strict criteria.

Weaknesses would have to be eliminated and provision made to graft on the general sporting public to the purely ethnic clubs.

The upsurge in recent years towards increased sports attendances has settled down.

Cricket figures have improved — Australian rules has levelled out.

Rugby league is one sport that has shown an increase.

This should cause no surprise.

Saturation television cover in the eastern states and a broadening of the club scene to cover more major population centres, added to progressive administration and promotion, did the trick.

Basketball's increase will become



Empty spaces at our soccer grounds — an indication we have been left behind in the Australian fields sports spectator stakes.

more apparent in future figures, particularly if the Sydney Kings' move to the Sydney Entertainment Centre pays the expected dividends.

Cricket, only to be expected, depends upon having suitable international touring teams to keep the turnstiles clicking, although interstate Sheffield Shield has made a comeback of sorts.

Club cricket remains a dead loss.

New plan

Those games that have become more popular — and brought the top media cover — have moved into every possible major Australian city.

Whilst National League soccer is enjoying a welcome spectator rise in its first summer season, the comparisons being made are against the washed out 1989 winter season.

Increased attendances are essential for

soccer's progress, and the implementation of forward recommendations in the Bradley Report will be the key to success.

It has been estimated that less than 10% of those who play soccer attend matches.

This is a highly important statistic to soccer.

The ratio of players to spectators has always been a difficulty in Australian soccer.

There has to be a closer connection between the playing and the entertainment wings of the game, and it has to be created without ruining the recreational playing side of the sport that has taken so much effort to build.

So many National and State League clubs lack the expertise needed to bridge the gap.

It is no secret that television cover is the big draw today, although a deal of the in-depth analysis remains with the print

media.

Television sport has a greater audience than attendances, and there is an extremely wide range available in much of Australia on any one day.

Australian rules interest has been static.

For people who participate in sport, cricketers, tennis players and Australian rules players head the list of television watchers.

Opportunity

Soccer is well placed at 10th place on the list of leading sports.

Car and motor cycle racing have been the recent winners.

Games which have a long spread — tennis and cricket for example — have a TV advantage due to the length of matches and tournaments.

Team sports like Australian rules and cricket are well planned to cover Friday nights, Saturdays and Sundays.

Surely, a lesson here if soccer decides to organise nationally in convincing fashion.

Some ill-considered statements have gone around, denigrating the benefits that can be obtained from the Bradley Report.

Even a game as widely accepted in the Eastern states as rugby league had no chance of lifting itself out of the mire by pulling on its own boot strings.

It was at the stage where a well considered plan had to be put into place.

In turn that led to the correct staffing of the organisation, with chairman Ken Arthurson handling international and broad brush policies and secretary John Quayle responsible for the operation of the main competition affairs.

Of course, a group of well qualified people then deal with the specifics.

So far as soccer is concerned, those deeply interested in the future well-being of this great game in Australia will want full details of the Bradley Report when it is presented to the Australian Soccer Federation at the end of the month.

More than that, they will be looking to chairman John Constantine and his cohorts for the courageous leadership that Australian soccer demands in order to position itself for a highly respectable and indeed glorious future.

A salute to Frank Arok

[SIMON MAHER RELIVES THE VITAL ISRAEL GAME. AUSTRALIA DREW 1-1 AND EXITED THE 1990 WORLD CUP ON APRIL 16, 1989 AT THE SYDNEY FOOTBALL STADIUM. MAESTRO FRANK AROK HAD MET HIS WATERLOO.]

A blue blur darts between two defenders, wrong foots the goalkeeper and side-foots the ball into the net with icy precision.

The only sound from the huge crowd is a low angry growl that contrasts with the wave of emotion-charged noise that preceded it.

Coach Frank Arok holds his hands to his temples like a man stricken by a nightmare.

Before him, his players in the green and gold are looking at their boots.

In a game they must win if they are to progress towards the World Cup, Australia is one goal behind Israel.

Arok must have seen his eight years of work slip before his eyes as Eli Ohana's goal silenced the 43,000 crowd at the Sydney Football Stadium in April last year.

One wonders if he might also have caught a glimpse of his future.

If he had, would he have believed the scene?

"Farina is inside the box, glides past a defender... brought down, Farina brought down, the referee waves play on, the low grumble rises and explodes above the stadium..."

Looking back, Arok is the man who made the green and gold jersey a precious prize awarded to those prepared to give the last gasp of air in their lungs, to their country.

Only those players willing to give their very best wear the Australian colours.

It is the only way Arok will have it.

He asks of his players only what he asks of himself.

Observing Arok being interviewed before an important match makes you wince.

His eyes twitch, his

complexion is speckled with worry and fatigue, you can see the anguish of a man desperate for success.

Watching him on the bench you see him live every moment of the match.

His addiction to the video cassette recorder is legendary.

Before the World Cup qualifier against Israel in Tel Aviv, he made an exhaustive study of his opponents' recent games.

Thanks to Arok's vigilance, Australia is rarely out-thought tactically by opposition coaches.

While Australia will not be appearing in

World Cup finals of 1986.

'Mad Dogs' they were labelled, but Arok and his team were a fiercely committed and proud team.

That pride and commitment saw them demolish Argentina one incredible evening in July 1988.

They next challenged the mighty Brazil in the final of the Bicentenary Gold Cup final.

The notion of Australia confronting Brazil, the nation that produces footballing gods like Pele, Socrates and Zico, was a dream that captured the imagination of Australia, even though it went down 2-0.



Frank Arok and his assistant Berti Mariani leave the tunnel for the World Cup tie against Israel in Sydney.

Italy, Frank Arok and his teams have given the public a dream to believe in.

The demise of Rudi Gutendorf's 1982 team had as much dignity as a high-school 'muck-up day'.

Those who saw that embarrassing capitulation could not have believed that four years later the Socceroos would be driving forward gallantly against Scotland in the last hurdle to be jumped on the way to the Mexican

Making the quarter-finals of the 1988 Olympics, while not comparable to the World Cup, was an achievement to be admired.

They were all events that strengthened the belief that Australian soccer was heading in the right direction.

Arok's Australian teams have proven themselves capable of competing with distinction at international level.

Mitchell heads on, Trimboli... Trimboli volleys GOAL!!! AUSTRALIA LEVEL... minutes left to snatch victory...

Frank Arok has pulled miracles out of his hat for Australian soccer.

He has pulled us out of the barren years.

He is the man who has produced results in the most trying of circumstances.

It is for the vast efforts of Frank Arok and his players that we must be thankful.

The referee blows full-time against the Israelis, with the scoreline 1-1. There is chaos. Arok remonstrates.

By my watch there are minutes of injury-time remaining.

Australia is out of the 1990 World Cup, but Arok the coach can hold his head high.



Graham Arnold on the move against Israel at the Sydney Football Stadium — HECTOR CARRASCO photo.



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NSW clubs bolster their squads

BY PAUL GOODWIN

WITH only one week to go to the start of the NSW State League season, clubs are attending to the last-minute arrangements necessary to make them competitive in the enhanced competition.

Many are taking advantage of the new rules allowing existing State League clubs in both divisions to employ two guest (officially known as temporary or loan transfer) players from the National League for the season.

In addition, each club can field two overseas guests for up to six premierships matches and the attractiveness of teams is sure to be a marketable commodity.

The five NSW-based NSL clubs will be restricted to playing a largely under 23 side.

They will be permitted to use, at any one time, a maximum of four players whose age exceeds 23 years before 1st August 1990.

On this basis they are likely to be almost at full-strength, assuming that they choose to treat the competition seriously, rather than using it to assess fringe members of their NSL squad.

Existing State League clubs are sure to take advantage of the facility of using guest players, although some may feel pressured into doing so to stay in the race.

It is too early to say who will be appearing where, as many of the NSL clubs will not release players until the finals series is over.

It seems likely that anyone, faced with the prospect of relegation, could bring in guest if it had not already done so.

However, these players must be signed before June 30 and continue to the end of the winter season.

Concern has been expressed about the possible abuse of these provisions where clubs are unable to distinguish between true guest players and former NSL stars who forsake the national competition for the State League, but may have second thoughts at season's end.

Another scenario is of a team which includes two guests and several other ex-NSL stars and wins promotion, but is then unable to keep its same squad together when loaned players return to their parent club.



ROBBIE IRONSIDE — may guest star for Newcastle in the NSW State League season — HECTOR CARRASCO photo.

In any event, it is expected that each club's eight home games will draw increased crowds and every club, therefore, can promote its own boosted team and the appeal of the visitors too, whether they be full National League members or an augmented State League side.

The rule, of course, extends to Second Division as well and in theory a total of 24 players may join Division One sides and another 28 can move into the Second Division for the balance of their season.

The latter arrangement could have a destabilising effect on that competition which has been in progress for nine rounds already.

Ambitious Second Division clubs vying for promotion are sure to bid for the services of NSL guests and many are better equipped financially to do so than their First Division counterparts.

At this stage it is intriguing to see which players are to be released by those NSL clubs participating in the Super League.

Many pundits will watch with interest to see which NSL clubs aim to win the League with their youthful resources and which hang onto their best senior players for the sake of winning the competition.

The two clubs which have elected not to compete, Melita and Apia, will have an opportunity to loan many more players to bring in much-needed revenue, without any concern about maintaining a strong presence in the Super League.

Melita Stadium will, however, see Super League action as the

homeless Avala club are set to use the ground this season.

Leaving aside the prospects of the under 23 sides, the main objective for most will be promotion to the National League.

The likelihood of winning both the premiership and promotion is rather slim and it would not surprise if the promoted team finished in sixth place.

One of the favourites will be Newcastle's BHP Austral, who have made no secret of their ambitions and plan to take full advantage of the guest players option.

Names such as Clint Gosling, Robert Ironside, Gary Phillips and Ralph Maier have been bandied about, although nothing is yet finalised.

Sutherland already have John Kosmina in their line-up and he is proving very popular with the juniors of the district, always having plenty of time to pass on his abundant knowledge of the game.

The Sharks are likely to include at least one NSL player on loan and the front line could well bring back memories of recent Soccerroo days.

Canterbury-Marrickville will have big expectations when they fulfil their quota of visa players and also utilise their two loan players.

This could be their biggest season for many a long day.

Warringah-Freshwater coach Glen Sterrey would be happy to stick with the players he already has, but the need to be competitive leaves him with little option than to take on one, possibly two, loan players, if a suitable deal can be negotiated.

He is cautious of the merits of the scheme which seems to be of benefit to both NSL



clubs and its senior players, but has questionable long-term benefits for the State League set-up.

Rockdale-Ilinden is another club expected to enter the market, with two Melbourne-based players high on the list for inclusion in the State Super League line-up.

Rockdale, with two imports lined up as well, should provide first class entertainment.

Mendo Ralevski, a 29-year-old sweeper or midfielder from Yugoslav Second Division side Pobeda, is expected soon, while 24-year-old Blagoje Petrovski, a prolific striker from Slovenian League club Koper, should really set things alight up front.

Details from all clubs will not be released until the last possible moment, as negotiations continue between interested players and the respective clubs.

Interestingly, Melbourne NSL players are unable to move into Victorian State League sides as they would be tied down until December under VSF regulations.

This is of no use to their parent clubs whose season would, by then, be well under way.

Polonia will no doubt be making full use of their three visa players and some top quality Polish stars are expected this year.

It is less likely that they will bring in National League players, although difficulties during the season could change all that.

North Shore United is a fledgling club building its resources slowly and attempting to put down roots on the lower to middle North Shore area.

Funds are limited in these early days and the committee will rely on existing players to carry them through.

Should a major sponsor be interested, however, in funding such a venture as securing the services of star players for promotional purposes, then the situation could be vastly different.

NSW Division 1 — Anzac Day



BY PAUL GOODWIN

BHP AUSTRAL 3 SYD MACEDONIA 0

AFTER the setback eleven days earlier against the Wollongong Macedonians, Newcastle were in no mood to make the same mistake.

Nine of those players took the field having received a dressing down from coach Willie Gallagher for letting a 2-0 lead slip from their grasp then and they answered his call for improvement.

In addition, the return of Simon Brandt and the debut of Novocastrian Ralph Maier had a big impact on the team's improvement.

All the same, it was a very disappointing Sydney side, which had not played since trouncing Wollongong Macedonia 5-1 on the South Coast a couple of weeks earlier.

Chris Card, Macedonia's recent signing from Yugal, hit the post early in the second half and after a scoreless first period Austral began to hit their straps, stung by their early scare.

Bobby Naumov and Maier, who had been together at Blacktown City, looked good in midfield and it was Naumov who contri-

buted to the opening goal.

He floated in a freekick from adjacent to the corner flag and Wayne Bailey rose high at the far post to put his side in front.

The woodwork had intervened before the break with Bailey and Elphick unlucky, but in the 53rd minute a move involving Scott Gresham, Brett Porter and Brandt, resulted with the latter finding the net.

Porter put Brandt through for the third in the 78th minute to seal a comfortable win against a side which was on the receiving end of a red card for Cakovski and yellows for four others.

BHP AUSTRAL: Carter, Bowen (Gresham), Jones, Boogaard, Tredinnick, Maier, Naumov, Porter, Brandt, Elphick (Devon), Bailey.

SYDNEY MACEDONIA: Avellino, Souris, Cakovski (sent off), Genovese, Baile, Vrtkovski (Arcosa), Kotsias, Fernandez, Gilbert, Spirovski, Card.

WOLL MACEDONIA 1 AVALA 0

NSW Soccer Federation officials arranged for Seymour Shaw Park to be made available for this deferred fixture.

Hat-trick seals scorers' award

BY FRANK SCICLUNA

EXPLOSIVE 18-year-old striker David Seal became the youngest ever player to win the prestigious NSL top goalscorer award on Saturday with a sensational hat-trick which took his tally to 15 goals for the season in Sydney Croatia's emphatic 4-0 beating of Wollongong City at Edensor Park.

Trailing Melita's Greg Brown by one goal and equal with St George striker Tony Krslovic before this deferred match, Seal knew that he had to produce a special effort to clinch the title and while his rivals were battling it out between themselves at South Granville, Seal went about the task of demolishing the hapless Wolves almost single-handed.

He eagerly pounced on a casual backpass from Wollongong defender Jeff Allport in the 26th minute to rifle home his first goal, then found space to collect a square ball from Manis Lamond after an hour and easily slid home his second from 15 metres.

Lamond was in dazzling form, tormenting the Wolves defenders all afternoon and setting up numerous chances.

He was again the architect of Croatia's third goal in the 77th minute, picking up possession on half way and sending a pin-point through ball for Seal to take in his stride and complete his hat-trick.

Wollongong were being totally outplayed and it came as no surprise when midfielder Pedro Ricoy finished off the scoring 10 minutes from time with a spectacular diving header from a Zeljko Jurin cross.

But it took a further 10 minutes and numerous calls to Melita Stadium before news came through that despite the efforts of Brown and Krslovic, Croatia's brilliant young striker had become the season's top NSL goalscorer.

SYDNEY CROATIA: Franklen 6, Popovic 6, French 6, Babic 6, Kupresak 7, Jones 7, Ricoy 6, I. Petkovic 6 (Zizic 80m), Lamond 8, Seal 8, Jurin 7.

WOLLONGONG: Bouhoutos 5, McEvoy 5, Ratcliffe 6, Hristovski 5, Allport 5, Morlando 5, McFadden 5, D. Petkovic 6, Easthorpe 5, Danzo 5 (Lloyd 5), Craine 5.

SCORERS: Seal 26m, 60m, 77m; Ricoy 80m for Croatia.

YELLOW CARDS: Ratcliffe 11m for Wollongong.

REFEREE: D. Voutsinas 6.

CROWD: 710.

It was a happy result for the home side, returning to the scene of their triumph three days earlier.

Once more it was the lively Brett Thornthwaite who settled the issue, but on this occasion he grabbed the winner with still 11 minutes to play.

Avala enjoyed their share of chances but as at Newcastle in the shock 4-2 away win in the recent 1-0 win over Sutherland, the Macedonians kept plugging away and were rewarded for their efforts with success late in the game.

The win does not make them favourites for the group because their under 19 side has been less successful, but they are very much in contention and the results of the deferred games by Sutherland and Sydney Macedonia could assist their cause.

WOLLONGONG MACEDONIA: Mazeuski, Cavanah, Matthew Bourke, Kay, Sandy, Fletcher, Caban, Thornthwaite.

AVALA: Rodic, Sankovic, Dragomirescu, Ashton, Vrankovic, Nastoksi, Vasic, Meades, Kuc, Benitez, Welch.



CANTERBURY-M'VILLE 1 INTER-MONARO 3

INTER Monaro played some delightful football, revelling in the superb condition of Arlington Oval this year.

Baz Giampaolo grabbed two of the goals, one in each half, the first coming after only five minutes.

Louis Dounis equalised for the Berries in the 15th minute, but he was not able to lift his side enough to keep Monaro from regaining command.

CANTERBURY-MARRICKVILLE: Kyprianou (Pupovac 46), Adamou, Hantzis, Kalogeras, Radman, Divljak, Godzik, Hill (Benitez 46), Millessourgos, Oustambasidis, Dounis.

INTER-MONARO: Hoszowski, Grassick, Monterosso, Ambrosino, Danterello, Djordjeski, Popovich, Fernandez, Maric, Janke, Chicco, Giampaolo.

Results

BHP Austral 2 (Maier, Krslovski) **Sutherland 1** (O'Shea), **Rockdale-Ilinden 0** **Canberra Croatia 4**, **Canterbury-Marrickville 1** (Dounis) **Inter-Monaro 3** (Giampaolo 2 A.N. Other), **Warringah-Freshwater 2** (Giannone 2) **Polonia 2** (Beamer, Nowicki), **Sydney Macedonia 7** (Kadric 3, Arcosa, Kotsias, Card, Baillie) **Avala 0**, **Wollongong Macedonia 3** (Fletcher, Thornthwaite, Bradley) **North Shore United 1** (Norman).

**MORE NSW DIV 1
REPORTS on P18**

Blanco deserves top coaching award

It would have little hesitation in naming Raul Blanco as my coach of the year.

It is unlikely, however, that Blanco will figure in the leading candidates simply because the Coach of

the Year always goes to the coach of one of the top sides.

I don't agree with this thinking as many successful teams succeed in spite of, not because of the coach.

Blanco's effort with Melita, in relative

terms, is by far the outstanding effort of the season.

Should they beat St George in their deferred game, Melita will finish in seventh position, just three points out of the five.

Having seen them on six occasions this year, they always left the match with far less points than they deserved.

Blanco achieved success against great odds.

Promoted sides are nearly always relegated in year one, Wollongong of several years ago being the notable exception.

Melita had a four week turnaround between State League success and NSL kick-off.

Additionally, there was no great spending spree and more significantly, Blanco and Melita at all times played or attempted to play 'jogo bonito', the beautiful game.

One could add that having travelled to Adelaide with the Melita team last month, they are a great credit to the game in terms relating to off-the-field behaviour.

Not far behind Blanco in my reckoning would be Apia's Manfred Schaefer, who but for the loss of Rod Brown, would have been sitting in the top three of the league and not pipped for fifth by Sydney Olympic.

A reminder that we run a fifteen-minute soccer segment every Saturday morning on Canberra's 2SSSF from 8.15 with John Kinsella.



RAUL BLANCO

Pontian Eagles



GREEK-backed Pontian Eagles

Soccer Club is establishing itself in Division 6 of the NSW Soccer Federation.

Their home ground is Mahoney Reserve at Marrickville.

President Chris Paschalidis says the club is aiming to form a junior section next season, which would compete in the strong Canterbury District Association.

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Bruce Stadium nostalgia

A nostalgic return to Bruce Stadium for me when I took in the ACT v Indonesia international match recently.

should have been.

By far the best stadium in the land and a flick through some of the Canberra players who have gone on to international status at senior or youth level



Frankie Farina in full cry — he is one of several ex-Canberra City players to have graced Bruce Stadium.

The revamped Stadium for the Canberra Raiders merely reinforced that the Bruce Stadium is the finest football stadium in the land.

Now, except on special occasions, all that is lost to soccer.

There were notable improvements — VIP boxes everywhere — amazing, when the old Canberra City could not get any co-operation to install VIP areas.

Now it's rugby league, all that has changed.

The ground was in superb condition — in soccer's days the surface was never anything special.

Today for rugby league, it is like Wembley.

The loss of the athletic track has done little to improve spectator facilities, however,

as the playing area is too far away from the main grandstand.

Soccer's loss is rugby league's enormous

gain. It all leaves you with the thought of where Canberra soccer

shows Canberra should have had one of the best teams in Australia — Tony Henderson, Baz Giampaolo, Walter Valeri, Andrew Bernal, Jimmy Cant, Frank Farina, Manis Lamond, Tony Frank, Steve Hogg, Danny Moulis, Phil Reis (who played for Hong Kong in the 1986 World Cup), Tony Giannessa and not forgetting Rothmans Medallist Alan Reis.

ooo

NED ZELIC SHINES

Canberra Croatia are delighted with the form of former Sydney Croatia youngster Ned Zelic.

Zelic, released by Sydney Croatia, is knocking them over in Canberra, prompting club officials to doubt the decision of their Sydney counterparts to release the talented youngster.

THE JOHNNY WARREN COLUMN



Joe Alagich seeks to restore old Yugal glory

A BIG move is being made to restore one of Australia's most respected soccer clubs to its former glory.

In the 1960s, the Yugal club ruled the roost on the Australian club scene.

Yugal were the winners of the inaugural Australia Cup in 1962.

Today, the Yugal team is languishing in the Second Division of the NSW State League and a near forgotten commodity.

And the man who is attempting to get the Yugal show back on the road again is popular former player Joe Alagich.

Joe started his magnificent career with the club way back in 1962 and was still in the club colours in 1980.

He made 318 first grade appearances, scored over 150 goals for the club, was a member of the Soccer-oos squad in the elimination rounds of the 1970 World Cup and made numerous appearances for the NSW representative side.

Joe's greatest day

for Yugal was in the 1970 grand final when he scored three goals against St George in atrocious conditions at the old Sydney Sports Ground.

This week, Joe said that every effort is being made to get Yugal back in the big time again.

"Yugal was THE club in Australian soccer in the sixties and we are making an attempt to restore the club to its former greatness," he said.

"We are also looking for a major sponsor to help us in this aim and have started a fund-raising scheme which is being well patronised.

"It will be a long road back but we're confident we can succeed.

"We are at present on top of the State League Second Division and on our way back to the big time."

Along with Alagich, there have been some marvellous players in the Yugal colours over the years with star performers such as Ferdo Dunaj, Mita Stojanovic, Bill Edwards, Heinz Ringhoff, Ilja Takac, Laurie Waters and Ivo Rudic to name a few.

SUBSCRIPTIONS

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A pictorial tribute to

Marconi



'89/90 MINOR
PREMIERS



BRESCIA



MAN OF ACTION: Marconi's David Lowe brushes past Adelaide's Joe Mullen at Marconi Oval



Marconi's minor premiership-winning team before the last regular season game against Preston — HECTOR CARRASCO pic.

MINOR PREMIERSHIP GOAL SCORERS

- 11 — Zlatko Nastevski
- 9 — Tommy McCulloch
- 7 — Fred de Jong
- 5 — Ian Gray
- 4 — Senad Glavovic / Gomez
- 2 — Paul Okon, Jean-Paul de Marigny, Peter Katholos, David Lowe
- 1 — Steve Calderan, Vince Colagiuri, Gary van Egmond
- Own goal — Gerry Gomez, Gary van Egmond

MINOR PREMIERSHIP APPEARANCES

- 26 — Bob Catlin, David Lowe, Tommy McCulloch, Robbie Wheatley.
- 24 — Fred de Jong, Peter Katholos.
- 23 — Steve Calderan, Jean-Paul de Marigny, Gary van Egmond.
- 21 — Ian Gray.
- 20 — Paul Okon.
- 19 — Gerry Gomez.
- 15 — Vince Colagiuri.
- 13 — Matteo Colucci.
- 11 — Zlatko Nastevski, Senad Glavovic.

* substitutions count as a full appearance.



Bobby Catlin in charge — the Marconi 'keeper was a tower of strength for the club in 1989/90 — HECTOR CARRASCO photo.

HOW THEY DID IT

- Round 1 — SYDNEY OLYMPIC (home) W 1-0
- Round 2 — BLACKTOWN CITY (away) L 1-3
- Round 3 — ST GEORGE (away) W 7-0
- Round 4 — MELBOURNE CROATIA (home) D 1-1
- Round 5 — ADELAIDE HELLAS (away) W 3-2
- Round 6 — WOLLONGONG CITY (home) D 0-0
- Round 7 — MELITA EAGLES (away) W 1-0
- Round 8 — SOUTH MELBOURNE (home) D 0-0
- Round 9 — SYDNEY CROATIA (away) W 3-1
- Round 10 — SUNSHINE GC (home) W 5-1
- Round 11 — ADELAIDE CITY (away) D 1-1
- Round 12 — APIA LEICHHARDT (home) L 1-2
- Round 13 — PRESTON (away) D 2-2
- Round 14 — SYDNEY OLYMPIC (away) L 0-1
- Round 15 — MELBOURNE CROATIA (away) W 1-0
- Round 16 — ADELAIDE HELLAS (home) W 4-0
- Round 17 — BLACKTOWN CITY (home) W 2-1
- Round 18 — WOLLONGONG CITY (away) W 2-0
- Round 19 — ST GEORGE (home) W 3-2
- Round 20 — MELITA EAGLES (home) L 0-1
- Round 21 — SOUTH MELBOURNE (away) L 1-3
- Round 22 — SYDNEY CROATIA (home) W 2-0
- Round 23 — SUNSHINE GC (away) W 2-0
- Round 24 — ADELAIDE CITY (home) W 3-1
- Round 25 — APIA LEICHHARDT (away) W 2-1
- Round 26 — PRESTON (home) W 2-1

P: 26 W: 16 D: 6 L: 4 F: 62 A: 24 Pts 38
(in 1989: P: 26 W: 16 D: 6 L: 4 F: 51 A: 24 Pts: 38)



Fullback Jean-Paul de Marigny — his two goals against Apia Leichhardt all about clinched the minor premiership for Marconi — HECTOR CARRASCO picture.

Soccer the victim in St George riot

BY LES MURRAY OF SBS-TV

MACEDONIA versus Greece. It would be easy to so define the unseemly bash on the hill of Sydney's St George Stadium in Round 24 of the QNSL.

Except the Greeks would quibble with that. There is no such country, they would say, as Macedonia. So the definition would be inaccurate.

The Macedonians — or at least the ones that came masquerading as Macedonians and fans of Preston Makedonia soccer club — might be more willing to accept the analysis.

But then which Macedonia do they represent? On today's political boundaries, there are three of them. There is the part in Yugoslavia, the part in Bulgaria and the part — continues my encyclopaedia — in Greece.

Such a region, populated since the Thracians moved into it more than 4,000 years ago, is bound to have had its turbulent history. Alexander the Great, and his father King Philip II, who unified the Greeks in 338 B.C., were Macedonians.

Romans, Byzantines and the Ottoman Turks all fiddled with the area.

The present scenario,

which sees nearly five million inhabitants of the region split into three separate countries, is a product of the first Balkan War which saw the Ottomans finally driven out and the territorial spoils divided three ways.

Somewhere along the 78 years that have since elapsed, differing feelings have evolved as to who are the real Macedonians, to which country it should belong or whether indeed it should belong to any country at all.

That, in simple terms, is what was at the root of the crowd disturbances, ignited by the match between Preston (Yugoslav Macedonians) and Sydney Olympic (Greeks).

And what does all this have to do with Australia?

Nothing? Wrong.

Polyglot

It has everything to do with Australia — a country whose people are a polyglot of different cultures, parochial interests and lands of origin, most of them with a turbulent history.

Crowd violence at soccer matches, with pockets of hot-headed 'ethnics' pelting or belting one another, is simply the more spectacular, less desirable and less lawful manifestation of essential differences that exist between most of us.

Some Australians eat roast beef on Sundays. I, as one of Hungarian extraction, eat goulash. Nobody notices nor cares. I don't offend by eating goulash and I am not

offended by others eating roast beef.

But a taste for either are both things we have brought with us from whence we came.

And so are hatreds, prejudices and suspicions, depending on where we came from

and how long we have been here.

They are all, however unfortunate, by-products of immigration in a country which, we are told by most economists, must have it.

To expect migrants

not to bring their irrational prejudices is to expect them not to bring the full gamut of their baggage: their language, their cuisine, their enterprise, their capacity for hard work.

To say: 'They should leave their hatreds behind!' is a futile wish. They cannot simply separate them from their luggage.

So fear not for Australia's social fabric. Migrants come, bringing with them not all things good. They sometimes behave not like we would. But eventually they assimilate and pipe down.

Second and third-generation Macedonians or Greek-Australians, I am happy to say, won't give a hoot about their parents' hatreds for each other.

Victim

Sympathise instead with the one victim of the lunacy at the St George Stadium: soccer, Australia's struggling football code which needed that brawl, and its associated headlines, like a hole in its permanently aching head.

As someone who has seen much undoubted incompetence from soccer's managers in this country, I for once find myself sympathising with them.

Presiding over a game which migrants choose to follow, and which because of that is shunned by the country at large, they are all but powerless to rid their domain of those who use it as an area for things other than sport.

Of course, old, tried and failed solutions will come pouring forth. Force clubs to change their names, outlaw foreign flags, ban non-English public address announcements, all of which still occur regularly at soccer matches.

But this is a free country. Funny sounding names, megaphone announcements we cannot understand and funny coloured flags are not against the law.

Fighting in a public place is, although, even in the eyes of the law, there are no distinctions over who fights, why he fights and who started it.

And when he started it, whether that be five minutes or 78 years ago.

Already this week there have been loud calls by those who mean well for a total 'de-ethnicisation' of



the game. What they want is for soccer's authorities to forcibly take away from clubs all visible and physical signs of an ethnic identity.

And I too am among those who wish assimilation would move at a quicker pace and that soccer would rid itself at least of values which have nothing whatever to do with sport.

But it is hard to be convinced that such measures would change anything. Identities, after all, are carried in the heart and in the mind, not in the flutter of a flag or the sound waves emitted by megaphones.

And I am not sure it would be right. There is something discomfiting in the prospect of putting in the jackboot, forcing people to be something other than what they are or what they wish to be.

Clubs with a migrant identity and base have been the very nature of soccer in Australia for over 35 years. And most of those clubs did no harm to the game or the country.

They congregate on weekends for a social diversion. They speak, harmlessly, in the same language, eat the same food, reminisce about the same memories.

But some, a small number, use their soccer clubs as a political or religious platform. It is those clubs, which allow and in some cases encourage political activity, which represent a very real danger to the sport.

Soccer has neither the time, the power nor the knowhow to change people and sway their inner feelings and political inclinations.

But it does have the power to decide who plays and who doesn't.

John Constantine, the chairman of the Australian Soccer Federation, has already hinted at some blunt measures when he said: "People who insist on using soccer as an arena in which to vent hatreds may have soccer taken away from them."

He could be thinking of the historic steps taken by European soccer authorities after the Brussels riots of 1985 when all English clubs were indefinitely banned from the Continent.

This article first appeared in the the quality **SUNDAY HERALD**, Melbourne.



Police take charge at St George Stadium after the unseemly brawl involving a minority of Preston and St George fans — HECTOR CAR-RASCO photo.

Wolves seek big-name players

WOLLONGONG CITY have reached the end of their 10th season, but the club board faces some tough decisions about their future.

With the likes of Marconi, Melbourne Croatia and South Melbourne on the verge of going fully professional, Wollongong must reassess their position in the QUIT National Soccer League.

Do they stay as one of the also-rans of the league, playing Russian roulette, or do they get serious?

Coach David Ratcliffe has completed his first season as an NSL coach and can feel well pleased that he has steered the Wolves clear of relegation.

When you consider the playing staff he has used compared to that available to other coaches, Ratcliffe has done well.

He is now asking the Wollongong City board to give him more to work for next season.

Ratcliffe says he has been talking to most of the current senior players about



Wollongong City coach David Ratcliffe.

next season and had got a mixed reaction.

He said Jock Morlando was the only player who had made a firm commitment to stay with the club.

"I am hoping Danny Cranie can come to terms with the board because he is a key man in my plans for next season," Ratcliffe says.

"It is also important that George Bouhoutos and Ray Vlietstra and one or two younger blokes re-sign with us.

"At the end of the day it is up to the board to do all they can to keep the players here and reinforce the squad.

"We have to be more competitive than we were this season. That means getting at least three more experienced players to join Wollongong City."

Ratcliffe has his sights on one big-name player with a Sydney club and a striker from the New Zealand National League.

He has also asked the club to bring midfielder Jerry Murphy back from England as a visa player.

Murphy has done a good job for Ratcliffe after settling into the Wolves team.

Murphy is due to return home soon but has indicated he would like to have another season with the club.

Morlando said last week he felt he owed it to the club to stay.

"I have had a miser-



RAY VLIETSTRA

able season with injuries and suspensions and want to come back and make amends after a good break," Morlando said.

"Having played two seasons almost back to back has left some of us with nagging injuries and tired of football.

"After an overseas trip and a long rest I am confident of a big season when we start again in October."

— reprinted courtesy **SUN-HERALD**

Chit Chat . . . Chit Chat . . . Chit Chat . . .

JUST to prove Marconi's almost total dominance of the NSL in the last three seasons (if we indeed needed to) here is one statistic to back it up.

Marconi, chasing a record equalling hat-trick of titles, has led the competition for 41 weeks in the past three years.

At the end of each home and away round during the 1988, 1989 and 1989-90 seasons, a total of 78 rounds, Marconi has been at the head of the ladder for more than half that time.

Marconi's 41 weeks of league leadership is more than four times better than Wollongong's 10 weeks at the top, all in 1988.

Apia has led the league seven times, Sydney Croatia six, Olympic five, South Melbourne four, Melbourne Croatia three, while Brisbane Lions and Sunshine George Cross have each managed one fleeting turn at the top.

Marconi has led the league for 33 of the last 52 weeks in 1989 and 1990.



WARREN SPINK

PRESTON's dynamic but currently injury-plagued striker Warren Spink wants to spend 1990 playing State League football in NSW.

Because of VSF transfer regulations, Spink has little chance of a local transfer but the goal-hungry Preston champion is desperate for match practice after coming off an injury interrupted 1989-90 campaign.

RAY FARRUGIA has ended his 12-year association with Melita Eagles.

At 34, Farrugia heads back to his native Malta this week to start a new life.

SOUTH Melbourne Hellas was the only NSL club to spend the entire 26 weeks of the season in the top five.

The last club to spend the season in the top five was Wollongong in 1988. The Wolves lost successive finals in that year to be bundled out of the series before the grand final.

YOUNG Adelaide City striker Carl Veart has admitted his first QNSL season has been a strain.

"I have been starting to feel tired in the past few weeks. It's been a very different challenge from the State League but I've enjoyed the experience," said Veart who could be an Olympic squad hopeful.

Veart would not single out any defender who had caused him special headaches.

"Every game has been difficult," he said. "It has been different for me playing out wider with two others up front. But I am quite happy with the way the year has gone."

"Some people have brought up the idea of playing in the Olympics. It is something I haven't thought a lot about but if it comes along that would be good."

HELLAS skipper Alby Kidd has turned down a chance to stay in the QNSL with Sunshine George Cross.

The import midfielder, who had experience with several Scottish clubs, claimed he was approached by the Melbourne side af-

ter Hellas was relegated by drawing with them.

"Sunshine had words with me but I am on a two-year contract and want to play again with Hellas in the NSL," said Kidd.

"We have 13 State League games to win to get back in there."

Keen soccer coach Gary Ireland has been demonstrating the skilful Wiel Coerver methods at clinics at the Capitol Sports Center in Madison, Wisconsin, in the United States. Prior to that he spent two months training with Glasgow Rangers and Dunfermline Athletic in Scotland. Now he is keen to return to Sydney to further push the Coerver methods and link up with St George and SBS Television. He can be contacted by telephone 011612 692-0649.

KIWI international striker Billy Wright could find himself in limbo.

Wright has left Hellas to return to Melbourne.

The day he left SA, contracts arrived for him to sign for NZ club Mt Maunganui.

Wright of course did not sign and may now seek a return to Victorian State League club Morwell Falcons.

But the transfer fee might put him out on a limb.

MARCONI are reported to be interested in Socceroo ace Graham Arnold for next season.

Two years ago big Arnie was transferred at \$75,000.

Indications are that Marconi would be prepared to go no higher than \$40,000.

Arnold will appeal to the QNSL if Croatia seek a prohibitive fee for a player who has



Marconi star and New Zealand international Fred de Jong comes away with the ball against Preston. His next stop is Fortuna Sittard in Holland.

given them sterling service over the years.

Arnold has no intention of moving overseas.

Don't be surprised if Mark Jones accompanies Arnold to Marconi as the Fairfielders have been impressed with the defender's form this season.

SYDNEY CROATIA are reported to be

selling off several players who have not produced the goods this season.

Apparently destined for the chopping block are Ivan Petkovic, Ante Rumora, Mike Grbevski and even the talented Manis Lamond, who has been out of sorts for the past two years.

FRANK FARINA is certain to win the Belgian First Division goalscoring title as well as the championship with his club, FC Brugge.

He is also being eagerly sought after by French and Italian clubs.

His exploits this season have put him in the \$2 to \$3 million category and is now the most valuable Australian soccer player of all time.

ST GEORGE have called off their planned tour of Chile and Argentina because the South Americans' terms were anything but generous. Saints broke new ground for Australian soccer in 1971 when they became the first club side to tour abroad. They won an international tournament in Tokyo when Rale Rasie was their coach.

MELBOURNE City JUST, one of four former NSL clubs playing in the Victorian State League in 1990, is the only one of the quartet still struggling.

Whilst Heidelberg, Juventus and Green Gully look set to be there or thereabouts in the title race, JUST has languished in the lower half of the table during the first 10 rounds.

The verdict of one JUST stalwart after a recent defeat by St Albans — 'bloody awful'.

EDDIE KRNEVIC is certain to return to Belgium next season. He may even rejoin his former club Anderlecht, who have qualified for the final of next week's European Cup-Winners' Cup.

Eddie is also having talks with Anderlecht's traditional rivals, Standard Liege.

The Aussie marksman only managed seven goals for his relegation-bound French side, Mulhouse, this season, and never settled down in Alsace.

DARREN Stewart, Apia-Leichhardt's powerful defender, will be hospitalised in Sydney for a fortnight. Despite being constantly troubled with a dislocated shoulder which popped out no less than five times, he had a big season. His 1989 season also had suffered when he had to undergo a total knee reconstruction. It looks as if much better times are ahead.

WOLLONGONG City defender Richard Lloyd will shortly be leaving to trial with Los Angeles Heat in the United States, where he has obtained a university scholarship. He also has an offer to trial with a big Swedish club.

Wollongong Macedonia signed Wollongong City goalkeeper Warwick Young and Polonia star Stefan Janic in a deal that cost them \$11,000. Within two days Young had badly

broken a leg, which will keep him out of action for half the season. Janic broke an arm. Their coach, Casey de Bruin, brought former Sydney Olympic goalkeeper Peter Wilson out of retirement to fill one gap.

SBS Television remains keen to beam out the World Cup semi-finals and final exclusively, despite the deal to provide ABC Television with most of the games to service the areas not covered by SBS. ABC head of Television Sport, David Salter, believes that something can still be worked out for the later games. If not, the rest of Australia not covered by SBS will not receive the important matches. SBS will be telecasting 78 hours of live soccer in the period June 8/July 8. Each of the 52 games will be received. When games clash, one of them will be put on tape and played immediately after. Outstanding English television personality Martin Tyler has been contracted as a commentator.

AFTER sitting out the 1989/90 season, highly respected Victorian coach John Gardiner has been appointed Preston's coach for 1990/91. He is currently culling the present squad, as well as looking at possible new signings.



When old friends meet — as goes! Hector Carrasco took this photograph of the Sydney Croatia (dark shirts) and Melbourne Croatia squads at Edensor Park.

Albion Turk takes narrow lead

BY MARC BREKAU

BRUNSWICK UTD JUVE 0 ALBION TURK GUCU 1

ALBION continued their fine run in the State League with a win against Brunswick Juventus at Middle Park on Sunday.

The match was never in danger of being a high scoring one, and the crowd sensed that a solitary goal would be enough to secure both points.

Alas, that team was not to be Brunswick.

To Albion's credit they won without regulars Wallace, Karayel and Oblak.

To compensate for this, they debuted 17-year-old striker Salim Sabri, and in him found a youngster with plenty of promise for the future.

Brunswick could have gone ahead after 29 minutes when Shaun Lane's hit the crossbar.

From then onwards the home team did little to ruffle the Albion back four.

The goal that secured the points, and top league position for Albion came after 75 minutes.

Sabri provided an inch-perfect pass to Steve Douglas, who rounded Brian Brown and slotted home the ball from five metres.

Brunswick coach Terry Hennessey said afterwards of his team's performance: "We didn't play like I know we can, and I thought that they wanted to win this match more than we did."

"In the end the result justified our performance."

RINGWOOD CITY 0 ST ALBANS DINAMO 3

Ringwood could do little to stop the St Albans machine in a match which at times appeared a little one-sided.

St Albans took the lead after 19 minutes when Allovic crossed and found Eres who scored from close range.

Six minutes later St Albans made it 2-0 when Cahut put through a square ball to Eres who delightfully scored his seventh goal of the season.

Reserve keeper Marlo Vundrel was hardly troubled by the Ringwood attack during the match, and found himself applauding his teammates in the 61st minute when St Albans made it 3-0.

A cross from the right by Eres slid past both teams' players in the Ringwood goalmouth until it was picked up by Ollie Pondeljak, who scored from the edge of the box.

Whilst the match appeared one-sided, it was not all good news for the visitors.

Paul Babic endured his fourth booking of the season, which could

have been avoided if he had control of his mouth.

FRANKSTON PINES 1 CAULFIELD CITY 3

Frankston commenced this match with the will to succeed, and their efforts were rewarded after only five minutes with a spectacular goal from Paul Rollman.

Rollman managed to shake off three Caulfield players and hit his shot from 20 metres out, but this was all the locals could manage as the Caulfield midfield machine slowly clicked into gear.

Caulfield scored their first 10 minutes from half time. Pines were caught playing the offside trap and Angie Fillipou had little difficulty beating keeper Lee Davis.

Caulfield continued to pressure in the second half, and after 26 minutes made it 2-0 when a scramble in the box saw Filipou shoot and Carlos Romero tap in.

Con Pappas sealed Frankston's fate five minutes later when he slotted the ball past an advancing Davis.

GREEN GULLY AJAX 2 BULLEEN VENETO 0

Bulleen displayed little of the style that had given them top position after Round 11 against Green Gully, and they suffered as Ajax established a wall in defence which Veneto simply could not break down.

Ajax pressured early in the first half, and found they had an early lead after 12 minutes when Arkie Kotzamalichis rose to head home his second goal of the season.

Minutes later Kenny Smart beat his marker on the edge of the Thomastown penalty area and slotted the ball home past goalkeeper Dean Anastasiadis.

Bulleen coach Alan Gentry summed up the popular opinion that "We simply couldn't find a way of breaking through that strong Gully defence."

"Had we found a way through, I feel the scoreline might have read differently."

MELB CITY JUST 2 BOX HILL 0

Melbourne City continued to show signs of promise in their match against bottom of the table Box Hill.

Once again Sasha Becvinovski delighted the crowd with the type of soccer that has made him such an outstanding player this season.

Becvinovski scored the fastest goal of this season when in under a minute he headed a cross from the right past a stunned Box Hill defence.

The match never appeared to be going against JUST. Unfortunately, Box Hill had lit-

tle up front to trouble goalkeeper Kardamitis.

It was Becvinovski who helped JUST score their second goal when he was tripped in the penalty area 15 minutes before fulltime.

Carlos Retre calmly stepped forward to convert the spot kick and gave JUST the points.

NORTHCOTE CITY 2 MOOROOLBARK 0

"Our performance today was probably the worst we have played as a team all season," said Northcote coach Roy MacLaren as his side defeated Mooroolbark 2-0 at John Cain Reserve.

The home team went 1-0 up after 30 minutes when goalkeeper Les Long was unlucky not to save a fine 22-metre drive by George Tsangos.

Minutes later, Mooroolbark's Robbie Kincaid made a clearance off the line to deny Peter Cocker.

Cocker later blasted a shot well over the bar with the keeper well beaten.

Northcote continued to pressure Mooroolbark, with both Anezakis and Harris putting in good performances for the home side.

Northcote made it 2-0 when Manny Anezakis capped off his performance with a goal.

FAWKNER 2 HEIDELBERG ALEX 1

This match proved to be a major one for Fawkner in their quest for success as they strove to compete with Heidelberg for the top league position.

Heidelberg, however, appeared subdued for most of the match, which allowed Fawkner the opportunity to send a warning to the other top contenders that they were now ready to mount a serious challenge for the championship.

Fawkner made their intentions clear to Heidelberg after two minutes when Hannah tapped in the ball from a Blagojevic cross.

Hannah made it 2-0 in the 31st minute when Fawkner caught Heidelberg on the break.

The Bergers were kept at bay from the Fawkner goalmouth by some solid defensive work from Walsh and O'Dell, and only scored when Goutzolis was brought down in the Fawkner penalty area after 55 minutes.

Cannell had no problems slotting the ball away to give Heidelberg the chance of salvaging a point.

Fawkner could have gone further ahead when Emmanuelle blasted a shot hard against the crossbar, the ball rebounding over the goal line with Oliver well beaten after 79 minutes.

The referee disallowed the goal, claiming the ball hadn't crossed



Saso Becvinovski of Melbourne City JUST in action — ROY HAY photo.

the line, much to the annoyance of Emmanuelle and his Fawkner teammates.

CROYDON CITY 1 THOMASTOWN 1

It was a pity that both teams had to contend with a pitch that looked as if it had just been used for a motorcycle speedway show.

Croydon and Thomastown both were looking to regain the form that had them top of the league earlier this season.

Croydon's Andy Humble continued his fine goalscoring form with a header after 15 minutes from a John Gabrielson freekick.

The home side certainly missed key players Klepac and Doherty in this match, both through injury.

Thomastown gained an equaliser after 27 minutes when player-coach Ian Dobson brought down Christaldo in the penalty area. Chris Taylor scored from the resulting spot-kick.

The second half continued to be one of scoring chances, despite the poor pitch conditions.

Runje and Humble provided plenty of entertainment for the home side fans to cheer about.

Christaldo had the best scoring opportunity for Thomastown five minutes before fulltime when he fired his shot over the crossbar with only the keeper to beat.

However, in the end a point shared was a fair result for both teams.

MORWELL FALCONS 0 ALTONA GATE VARDAR 0

The draw saw the Falcons in eighth place on the table, but without showing signs of their magnificent run at the end of last winter.

R13 SAT MAY 5

Albion v Ringwood, Altona v Brunswick, Morwell v Box Hill, Bulleen v Melbourne City, Caulfield v Green Gully, Frankston v Heidelberg, Croydon v Fawkner, St Albans v Northcote, Thomastown v Mooroolbark.

R14 SUN MAY 6

Northcote v Albion, Ringwood v Altona Gate, Box Hill v Brunswick, Bulleen v Morwell, Melb City v Caulfield, Green Gully v Heidelberg, Frankston v Croydon, Mooroolbark v St Albans, Fawkner v Thomastown.

LEADING SCORERS AFTER R12

9: Lewis (HA), 6: Douglas (ATG), Tuck (BV), Eres (SAD), 5: Becvinovski (MCJ), McMullen (AGV).

TABLE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Albion	12	6	5	1	16	5	17
Fawkner	12	7	3	2	20	11	17
Bulleen	12	7	3	2	21	13	17
Croydon	12	7	3	2	13	10	17
Green Gully	12	7	2	3	16	10	16
Thomastown	12	6	4	2	16	17	16
Heidelberg	12	7	1	4	26	13	15
Morwell	12	4	6	2	14	10	14
Northcote	12	5	3	4	17	13	13
Brunswick	12	4	3	5	15	12	11
Altona Gate	12	3	5	4	12	11	11
Melb JUST	12	3	5	4	11	14	11
Caulfield	12	4	2	6	17	19	10
St Albans	12	3	3	6	16	17	9
Mooroolbark	12	3	3	6	11	15	9
Ringwood	12	3	1	8	11	25	7
Frankston	12	1	2	9	8	28	4
Box Hill	12	0	2	10	10	30	2



Brunswick Juve keeper Peter Laumets

Altona Gate, Preston successful

BY ROY HAY

ALTONA Gate surprised minor premiers Melbourne Croatia with a 2-1 win in the qualifying final at Olympic Park in the National Youth League (Southern Division) last Sunday.

Altona Gate took the lead when a shot took a wicked deflection off Croatia's Denis Bergam and finished in the net.

Ive Kutlesovski made it two as Altona Gate had the better of the first half.

After the break, Croatia upped the tempo and attacked steadily without success until 23 minutes had passed.

Paul Jurcic lifted the ball over the defence and Tom Lovric ran on, beating the offside trap to slide the ball into the net.

In the elimination

final on Saturday, Preston ran out easy 3-0 winners against South Melbourne Hellas White at Green Gully Reserve.

Preston took the lead in the fifth minute through Peter Razmovski.

Tony Lingurovski was brought down when going through and Robert Momirovski made it two from the penalty spot after 22 minutes.

Both sides had a player sent off, but Preston added to its lead in the second half when Razmovski capped off his display with his second goal.

RESULTS

ELIMINATION FINAL

South Melbourne Hellas White 0 Preston Makedonia 3 (Razmovski 2, Momirovski).

QUALIFYING FINAL

Melbourne Croatia 1 (Lovric) Altona Gate 2 (own goal, Kutlesovski).



ANZAC DAY RESULTS

ROUND 11: Caulfield 2 (Tsiakos, Pappas) Fawkner 3 (Cardwell, Emmanuelle, Blagojevic); Thomastown 1 (Giaccherini) Northcote 1 (Anezakis); Albion 0 Morwell Falcons 0; Melbourne JUST 0 Altona Gate 0; Box Hill 1 (Lavale) Green Gully 2 (Har-

risson, Kotzamalichis); Bulleen 2 (Livingstone, Branov) Frankston Pines 0; Croydon 0 Heidelberg 3 (Herd, Carter, Lewis); St Albans 0 Juventus 0; Ringwood 2 (Corvan, May) Mooroolbark 4 (Reid, Campbell, Brogan, French).

DRAW FOR FINALS SERIES
PRELIMINARY FINAL
SUNDAY, 6TH MAY
Melbourne Croatia v Preston Makedonia.

SOUTHERN DIVISION
GRAND FINAL
SUNDAY, 13TH MAY
Altona Gate v winner (Melbourne Croatia v Preston).

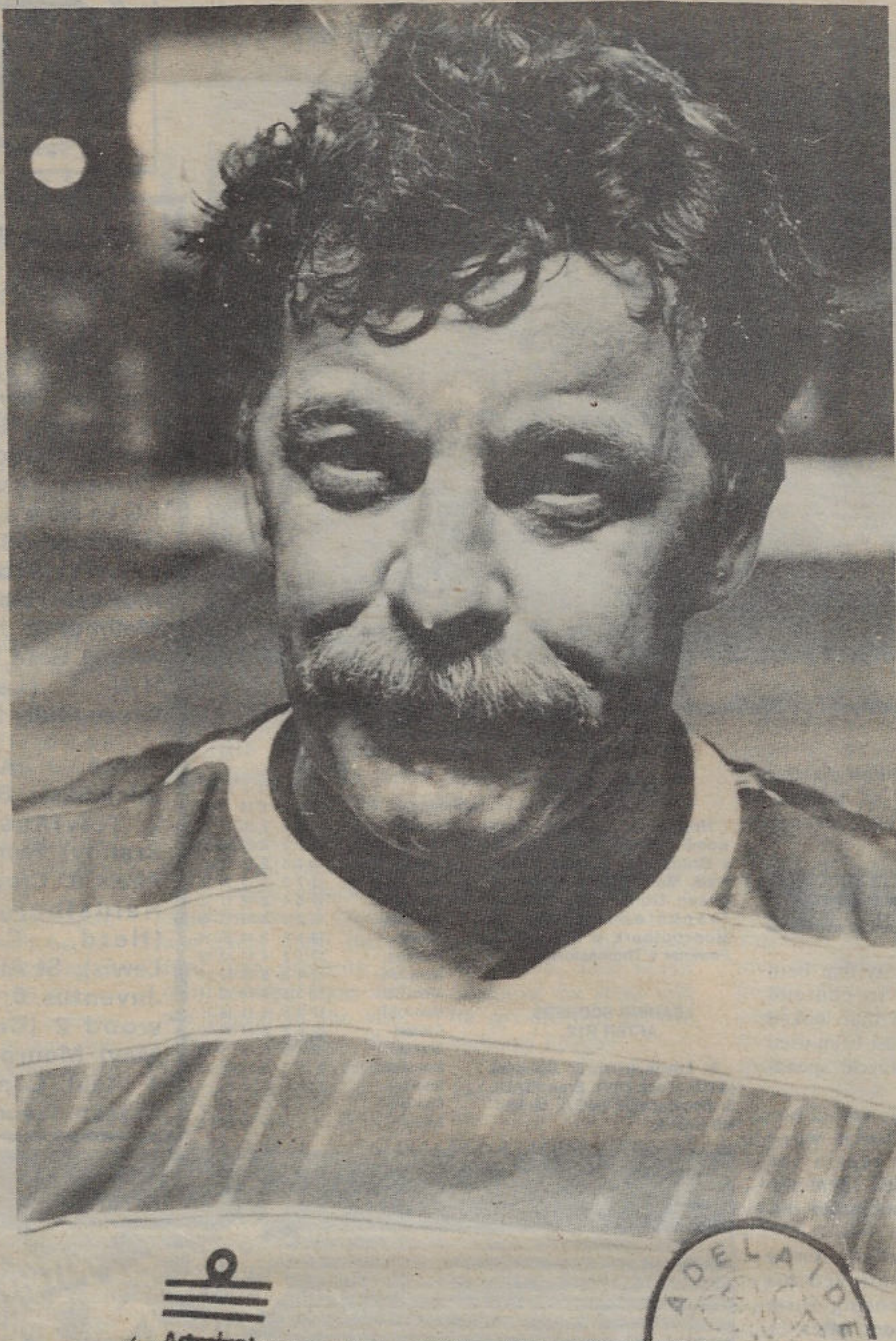
NYL GRAND FINAL
SUNDAY 20TH MAY
Winner Southern Division v Winner Northern Division.

NSL YOUTH LEAGUE SOUTH

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Melb Croatia	24	18	5	1	80	21	40
Altona Gate	24	17	4	3	59	21	38
SMHW	24	16	4	4	71	21	36
Preston	24	12	6	6	58	29	30
Sunshine GC	24	11	5	8	47	43	27
Melbourne City	24	10	6	8	57	50	26
Heidelberg Utd	24	6	7	11	26	41	19
Geelong City	24	8	3	13	34	63	19
East Richmond	24	7	4	13	35	55	18
North Geelong	24	6	5	13	41	51	17
Caulfield City	24	3	9	12	22	41	15
SMHB	24	5	5	14	34	64	15
Clifton Hill	24	4	3	17	21	84	11

SOUTH AUSTRALIAN SCENE

with Alan Clark



Champion Scottish striker Dixie Deans topped the Australian scoring table in 1977 — the first year of the National Soccer League, when playing for Adelaide City. A recent visitor to Adelaide, he was snapped at the recent Adelaide City vs Melbourne Croatia match by Janusz Kamina.

MOBILONG again reigned supreme in this year's Arthur Brammer Memorial Trophy indoor soccer tournament for prison officers.

The squad of Gordon Armstrong, Peter Thomson, Les Bell, Stuart Nimmo, Brian Crawford, Neil Gillies and Steve Johnston beat B Division from Yatala 1-0 in an engrossing final.

Three Mobilong teams, two from Adelaide Remand Centre and one each from Yatala E and B Div and the Staff Training Centre contested the event, which is in its fourth year.

Adelaide Gaol won the inaugural competition and with several of that winning team shifting to Mobilong, the Murray Bridge men have held the upper hand since.

NO fewer than five boys earned Advance Skills Awards at the Vacation Soccer School at Scotch College.

They were Winand Prinz, Alistair Byrne, Tim Jenner, Ben

Gaughan, Shane Thompson.

Gold Awards went to Steve Harvey, Alexander Priestley and Nathan Ewing.

Coaching directors Alby Kidd, John Cichinski, Fraser Kegan, Sam Miskelly and Mike McCauley put 60 boys through their paces.

Jedd Routledge earned the intermediate award to be selected as the goalkeeper of the week.

Schools will be held in July at Scotch and Rostrevor Colleges.

BOOM junior side Modbury Vista has 250 kids playing in the Elizabeth and District Junior Soccer Association.

But the club would like to attract players in the Under 11, Under 12 and Under 13 age groups. Anyone interested should contact the secretary on 251 4976.

MYSTERY still surrounds the hasty departure from SA of Birkalla Eagles midfielder Gareth Naven.

He went back to WA for family reasons and looks unlikely to return to SA this season.

Naven formerly played with Adelaide City.

ADELAIDE brothers David and John Fontanarosa are hitting their straps in Italy.

David, 17, a former SA colts squad player, has played with Avellino reserves.

Stylish John, 15, has been a key man in the second division club's juniors.

GORDON Costello, a former Bob Telfer Medal winner as the best and fairest in the Second Division has been released by First Division side Cumberland.

But the move may benefit him.

The skilled midfielder has joined promotion hopeful Blackwood while Cumberland is in the jaws of relegation.

AMPOL Cup winner Croatia recorded its biggest win in history last week by crushing

Seaford 8-0 in the West End Premier Cup.

Mladen Putanec, Theo Anastasiou and Dinko Blazincic each scored two goals.

The Cup showed a real turn around in events.

Enfield produced a Saturday surprise by beating promotion challenger Para Hills 1-0.

But Para turned the tables four days later in the Cup by thrashing Enfield 4-0.

GERRY Pettit, who was caretaker boss of State League club Polonia, has been named SA Coach of the Month in an award sponsored by leading wine firm Seppelt.

Pettit stood in as coach while the club waited the arrival from Poland of former player Stan Cygan and took the club to the top of the State First Division.

Seppelt will sponsor monthly awards and then name a Coach of the Year.

Pettit edged out Croatia's Donald Campbell and Bugsy Nyskohus of Adelaide City for the first monthly prize.

State of Origin may be scrapped

BY GREG RUSSELL

PLANS for a home and away interstate clash between Queensland and NSW this year have been scrapped while hopes that the one-off game at Perry Park in June will be a true State of Origin are also in jeopardy.

The Queensland Soccer Federation had pushed for a two-leg series this year after yet another expression of interest for home and away by the then NSW Federation president John Constantine after last year's match.

The QSF last week was advised by the

QUEENSLAND SOCCER FEDERATION



NSWSF that it was not in a position to play in a two-leg series but would send a team to Brisbane for the series which has been held annually since its revival in 1983.

That prospect could be a huge disappointment for Queenslanders who look to the interstate game as their only opportunity to see some of the southern stars in action.

QSF secretary Jim

Gilbert said he was hoping NSL players would make themselves available for selection for both States despite the season finishing for some last week.

"Obviously we can't tell NSW who to pick but I am sure they would select the best side available. All we can hope is that it contains players who are readily recognisable to Queensland soccer fans," he said.

Queensland backlog

BY GREG RUSSELL

QUEENSLAND Soccer Federation secretary Jim Gilbert has begun the unenviable task of attempting to re-schedule more than 100 games washed out by the recent big wet.

In what seemingly has become an annual task for Gilbert in recent years, he has been forced to create some spare dates for replays in a packed soccer calendar.

This year's task has been made more difficult because the Queensland season has been condensed to allow for a Queensland side to compete in the NSL promotion playoff. The tour by English side Charlton Athletic also has prompted a fixture reshuffle.

Gilbert used Anzac Day last week to wipe 36 games but admits he is now struggling in the search for another spare date for the 80 other unplayed matches.

The next available timeslot for rescheduling will not be until the weekend set aside for the Ampol Cup semi-finals on July 21. Gilbert admits even then it will be impossible to wipe the slate clean.

"Some teams have multiple unplayed games and it is impossible for them to catch up on just one weekend," he said.

"Obviously we are looking at clubs agreeing to play games on midweek nights but I shudder to think what the situation will be like if we get any more rain."

Brisbane scheme for Socceroos

BY GREG RUSSELL

POTENTIAL Socceroos whose clubs have failed to make the NSL playoffs could get the chance to maintain their match fitness from a proposal being studied by the Queensland Soccer Federation.

The QSF is expected to approach national caretaker coach Eddie Thomson and the ASF with a request to nominate up to nine players for guest stints against touring English club Charlton Athletic. The players' clubs also would have to give permission.

A Queensland residents' team will play the relegated English first divisioners at Perry Park on May 20 after meeting the ACT in Canberra three days earlier.

Australia plays touring Yugoslav team Hajduk Split in Sydney on June 3 and Melbourne on June 6.

Thomson has proposed a training camp in the week prior but the QSF believes the opportunity to play would be much more beneficial and could be a lead in to the camp.

"It's only an idea and if any players are

interested we certainly would be willing to talk and see what could be arranged," said QSF secretary Jim Gilbert.

If the idea is approved there is plenty of talent for the QSF to approach with the season ending a week ago for Hajduk series selection hopes including Sydney Croatia's Graham Arnold, Preston's Oscar Crino, Warren Spink, Phil Traianedes and George Jolevski. Sunshine's Ernie Tapai and Apia's Alex Bundalo.

Thomson has been quoted as saying he is looking for ways to keep the inactive players fit in time for the series against Hajduk Split.

"I have to see what can be done with players who will be out of action," he said. "Obviously it is important to arrange some decent preparation."

ASF secretary general Alan Vessey said he was aware of the QSF's interest in gaining players for guest appearances.

"I am not in a position to offer them any players but I have suggested a certain course of action," he said.

"Whether it is successful will depend upon the interest of the people involved."



Ross Hay (11) of Geelong City breaks away from Damian Mori of South Melbourne Hellas White in the National Youth League match at Middle Park on 1 April. Michael Michalakopoulos (9) of South Melbourne Hellas, Andre Prutey (centre) and Tony Bozinovski (behind) look on. Photo ROY HAY

Boys excel at Parra

Liverpool Albion Soccer Club under 12s did their club and their district proud on Sunday, when they played Manly District premiership club Avalon in an exhibition match prior to the NSL semi-final at Parramatta Stadium.

Coach Bill Smith and his boys failed to be over-awed by either the opposition or the one in a lifetime opportunity to play on such a stadium.

When the live-wire Joey Bruni chipped the Avalon keeper for the only goal of the match the huge crowd were on hand to give this team the reception they deserved.

Opportunities like this are far and few between, but these kids from Liverpool will never forget this moment for a very long time.

Score: Liverpool Albion 1 Avalon 0.

THE Australian Institute of Sport moved into the National Youth League Northern Division Grand Final when they beat a very determined and disciplined Apia Leichhardt 4-1 after extra-time in the major semi-final at Parramatta Stadium on Sunday.

Apia will now go on to play the winner of the minor semi-final.

The two teams for this match was decided when St George, who are one point out of the five, played Sydney Olympic in a deferred Round 25 game on Monday night.

Apia might well consider themselves unlucky as they more than matched their more fancied rivals.

The first half totally belonged to Apia who put the AIS right off their game and also played some very entertaining football.

However, good defence from the AIS lads kept the goal scoring

opportunities down.

The second half was a repetition of the first, only this time Apia's strikers were starting to find the target.

In the 58th minute Apia took the lead when Martinich finished off some expert play from the midfield.

Beaufils received a lovely ball down the right, he took down for the area and put over a lovely cross for Martinich, who controlled and then beat his man and slammed home his shot from five metres.

It was only in the last 15 minutes that the AIS looked like making a game of it as they pressed for the equaliser.

They eventually got their reward when Trajanovski scored from about a metre out when he was involved in a mad scramble for the ball after Ganney had hit the post from near the byline.

The score remained at 1-1 at fulltime, which meant 30 minutes of extra-time. The AIS

gained the upper hand from the start, testing Brett Hughes in the Apia goal on several occasions.

They then took the lead when Corica slotted home after Hughes could only parry the ball away from a Sorras shot.

Four minutes from time, the AIS put the game beyond doubt when Corica scored his second goal on the second attempt.

Right at the end of extra-time, the AIS netted number four, courtesy of Trajanovski.

On Saturday, two deferred matches were played and one had a big bearing on the final place in the top four.

This game proved to be a one-sided affair, with St George beating Melita Eagles 4-0, pushing them one point out of the four and in the process putting paid to any chance Melita might have had.

Goals to Poric (2), Freestone and Cianto saw the Saints through safely and now they only need a point from



their last fixture to make the semis.

In the other deferred match, Wollongong City beat Sydney Croatia 1-0 in a game which had no bearing on anything except who would pick up the wooden spoon.

The only goal came from Dimoski, who scored from a penalty kick.

On Anzac Day, one deferred Youth League game was staged, between Blacktown City and Sydney Olympic, which resulted in the Demons cementing their semi-final spot with a 3-0 win.

Blacktown's goals all came in the second half through McArdle, Connolly and Gibson.

AIS in NYL North Grand Final

BY DAVID COOPER

NEW SOUTH WALES

WEDNESDAY 25th APRIL

CHALLENGE CUP

BHP Austral v Sydney Mac	3-0	1-1
Wollongong Mac v Avala	1-0	3-2

SECOND DIVISION

Campbelltown v Petersham	cancelled
Central Coast v Orange Waratah	2-1 3-1
Dulwich Hill v Mt Druitt Town	2-0 3-1
Fairfield City v Manly Warringah	2-1 0-4
Gladesville H'by v Granville Chile	2-2 4-0
Auburn Yugal v Rosebery	0-1 1-4
Southern Districts v Waverley	cancelled

FEDERATION LEAGUE THREE

FEDERATION LEAGUE THREE		
Mt Pritchard v Port Hacking		cancelled
Concordia v Hills United	0-3	0-1
Canterbury Dist v Cyprus United	1-3	3-3
Bathurst '75 v Lemnos Allstars	0-2	0-1
West Wanderers v North Ryde RSL		cancelled
Bankstown v Uni of NSW	4-0	5-2

FEDERATION LEAGUE FOUR

FEDERATION LEAGUE FOUR		
Concord Juniors v Nineveh Eagles	2-1	2-1
Arncliffe v SSC Zagreb	1-3	4-3
Spanish Club v Hawkesbury Dist	2-0	0-1
Hajduk Rangers v Rooty Hill Gunners	6-1	2-5
Belmore Hercules v Croatia Syd Jnrs	cancelled	
Trasandinos v Colo Colo	2-1	1-0

FEDERATION LEAGUE FIVE

FEDERATION LEAGUE FIVE		
Sydney Uni v Lithgow Workmen	3-2	5-0
Prospect United v Ashour Star	cancelled	
Macquarie Uni v Maccabi Hakoah	3-1	4-1
West Dist Hellas v Alexander	4-1	2-3
Sporting Peru v Chile Sports	3-0	2-1
GNS United v CSI Schofields	4-3	3-1

FEDERATION LEAGUE SIX

FEDERATION LEAGUE SIX		
Cobroloa v Balmain	1-10	1-7
Pagewood Botany v Liverpool City	2-1	1-3
Liverpool Oly v St Josephs	cancelled	
Assyrian v New Welcome	2-0	1-5
Fogolar Furlan v Penrith	1-3	1-7
Abruzzi v Pontian Eagles	2-0	1-1

28th/29th APRIL

CHALLENGE CUP

BHP Austral v Sutherland	2-1	1-1
Rockdale v Canberra	0-4	3-4
Canterbury v Inter Monaro	1-3	1-0
Warringah v Polonia	2-2	1-0
Sydney Mac v Avala	7-0	0-3
Wollongong Mac v North Shore	3-1	4-0

SECOND DIVISION

Rosebery v Campbelltown	2-4	3-1
Petersham v Central Coast	1-3	0-3
Orange Waratahs v Dulwich Hill	0-6	0-1
Mt Druitt Town v Fairfield City	0-1	0-3
Manly Warringah v Gladesville H'by	1-2	4-3
Granville Chile v Waverley	2-1	2-0
Southern Dist v Auburn Yugal	3-2	3-0

FEDERATION LEAGUE THREE

Uni of NSW v West Wanderers	3-2	1-1
Bankstown v Cyprus United	2-1	2-1
Lemnos Allstars v Mt Pritchard	0-1	2-2
Port Hacking v Concordia	2-0	1-1
Cant & Dist v Hills United	1-5	2-2
North Ryde RSL v Bathurst '75	2-0	1-4

FEDERATION LEAGUE FOUR

Hawkesbury Dist v Trasandinos	2-1	0-3
Croatia Syd Jnrs v Hajduk Rangers	1-8	1-2
Spanish Club v SSC Zagreb	1-5	0-1
Concord Juniors v Rooty Hill Gunners	2-0	2-0
Nineveh Eagles v Arncliffe	1-1	3-1
Colo Colo v Belmore Hercules	2-1	2-1

FEDERATION LEAGUE FIVE

Alexander v Sydney Uni	4-1	3-3
Ashour Star v Macquarie Uni	4-2	0-7
Lithgow Workmen v Prospect United	2-1	3-3
Maccabi Hakoah v GNS United	1-2	1-3
Chile Sports v West Dist Hellas	1-4	0-2
CSI Schofields v Sporting Peru	2-3	2-2

FEDERATION LEAGUE SIX

New Welcome v Cobroloa	4-0	4-1
Pontian Eagles v Fogolar Furlan	1-1	4-3
Balmain v Pagewood Botany	2-2	0-4
Liverpool City v Liverpool Olympic	3-3	2-0
St Josephs v Abruzzi	1-4	1-2
Penrith v Assyrian	1-1	7-0

WOMENS STATE LEAGUE: 1st DIVISION

Illawarra v Liverpool Oly	1-3
Melita Eagles v North Ryde RSL	0-1
Epping Eastwood v Mt Druitt Town	3-1

WOMENS STATE LEAGUE: 2nd DIVISION

Gladesville Rns v Liverpool Olympic	1-0
Melita Eagles v North Ryde RSL	2-1

CHALLENGE CUP COMPOSITE TABLE	Polonia	4	1	2	6	8	6
	Inter Monaro	5	1	3	5	7	6
	Canterbury	3	1	0	4	6	4
	Warringah	3	0	2	1	3	6

GROUP A

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Canberra	10	10	0	0	27	8	30
Inter Monaro	10	10	1	5	16	16	10
Rockdale	8	3	0	5	10	19	10
Polonia	8	2	1	5	10	14	8
Warringah	6	2	2	2	8	11	8
Canterbury	6	2	0	4	8	11	6

GROUP B

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Wollongong	9	6	1	2	17	13	21
BHP Austral	9	5	3	1	26	9	20
Sutherland	8	3	3	2	11	7	13
Sydney Mac	5	2	1	2	13	8	9
Avala	8	1	2	5	9	21	5
North Shore	5	0	5	2	20	0	0

CHALLENGE CUP FIRST GRADE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Canberra	5	5	0	0	15	3	20
Rockdale	4	2	0	2	3	6	8

GROUP A

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
BHP Austral	4	2	2	0	10	3	6
Sutherland	4	1	3	0	4	2	5
Wollongong	4	2	1	1	7	5	5
Avala	4	1	2	1	7	9	3
Sydney Mac	2	1	1	1	4	1	4
Nth Shore	2	0	2	0	6	0	0

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AEROLINEAS ARGENTINAS

LEVEL 2, 580 GEORGE STREET, SYDNEY, NSW 2000-TELEPHONE (02) 283 3660

Wollongong stays in final contention

WOLLONGONG Macedonia, still very much in contention for a place in the final beat North Shore 3-1 but was stunned after only 48 seconds when underdogs North Shore United hit the lead.

A free-kick from George Saidas on the left hand edge of the box was met with a timely header by Peter Norman and the visitors were a goal to the good.

A defensive mix-up presented Graeme Fletcher with the leveler in the fifth minute.

A hopeful lob goalwards by the former St George player should have been cleared, but neither defender nor keeper was decisive enough and the ball ended up in the back of the North Shore net.

With 20 minutes gone Brett Thornthwaite accepted a gift pass from out of the North Shore defence and gave his side the lead from a low shot at the edge of the area.

In the second half play was even, as it had been in the first, and there were many goal-mouth incidents, but only one more goal to record.

A quickly taken throw on the left, in the 65th minute, and a switch of play by Thornthwaite allowed John Bradley to step in and pick his spot from 30 metres out and seal the issue.

WOLLONGONG MACEDONIA: Mazoni, Cavanah, Matthew Bourke, Galway, Cerra (T. Caban), Martin Bourke, Kay, Bradley, Sandy,

Fletcher, Thornthwaite.
NORTH SHORE UNITED: Thornton, Nile, Crookes, Pierce, Gough, Norman, Bennett, Ferguson, Savidas (Gillian), Jeffery, Bass.

WARR FRESHWATER 2 POLONIA 2

THIS game was switched to Chopin Park and Polonia enjoyed the best of the first half, going two up very quickly indeed.

Without Pavel Janduda, who is due to return soon to Poland, injured Lech Kulwicki, injured Polonia still managed to hit the front in the 3rd minute.

A corner cut back to Mojsa led to David Beamer nipping in to score the first from the resultant cross.

Beamer, it was too, who intercepted a loose ball in the Warringah defence and put Jarek Nowicki through for number two in the 15th.

Warringah enjoyed a much better 45 minutes after the interval and substitute Dominic Giannone grabbed both goals to level the scores.

First he drove home a ball, crossed from a corner, when waiting at the edge of the box and then finished off a move involving Robert de Ceglie whose cross he slammed home nicely.

WARRINGAH-FRESHWATER: Mikuletic, Glasscock, Oscilowski, Sterrey, Etherington, Ruperto (Morson), Masi (Giannone), De Ceglie, Knight, McBreen, Panetta.

POLONIA: Thurlow, Thomson, Chau, Lasek, Robertson, Colusso, Mojsa, Pratt, Beamer, Camburn, Nowicki.

— PAUL GOODWIN



They seek it here, they seek it there...neither Frank Danielle, of Inter Monaro (No 4), nor his Polonia opponent seem to know the whereabouts of the ball during their NSW Cup match at the Marco Polo Ground. Polonia won the game 3-2.

Sharks no easy-beats

WITHOUT John Kosmina and Peter Terry, Sutherland gave BHP Austral a run for their money, leading the home side 1-0 at half time before losing 2-1.

After an initial 15 minutes of mutual respect, Sutherland came under some real pressure from the opposition and once again Ralph Maier was in fine fettle.

It was the Sharks, however, who gained the lead in the 37th minute, when Robbie O'Shea converted a penalty, following a

foul on Grant Bard.

The Australs bounced back and only the woodwork prevented Maier and Naumov from getting on the scoresheet in the first half.

Under enormous pressure in the second half Sutherland held on until the 73rd minute. Pol Krstevski, recently returned from overseas and enjoying a great run in the under 19 side, came on for Doug Elphick and made the most of a good ball from Simon Brandt, putting in an angled drive from the left which had Dart

beaten.

Krstevski almost scored again himself when his drive in the 88th was cleared off the line.

The ball fell instead to Maier and the former NSL regular skimmed the grass with a 40-metre shot to give the home side the two points.

BHP AUSTRAL: Carter, Bowen, Gresham, Tredinick, Boogaard, Naumov, Maier, Bailey, Porter (Krstevski), Brandt, Elphick (Devon).

SUTHERLAND: Dart, Edmonds, Sellar, Webber, Biscaya, O'Shea, Rothwell, Sharp (Hutcheon), Christodoulou (Brandtman), Leney Bard.

Avala swamped

POOR Avala, down 1-0 at the break, let in a further six in the second half and by all accounts were lucky to get off with only that many as they lost 7-0 to Sydney Macedonia.

Fabian Kadric, making a welcome return to the side, opened his account in the 11th minute and added two more in the 78th and 83rd for another typical hat-trick.

Substitutes Leo Arcosa and Chris Card scored one apiece, while Theo Kotsias and Scott Baillie added the others.

Card's goal was the best. A move begun by Arcosa on his own goalline, when he supplied Scott Baillie with a pass, ended with a

Baillie cross converted by the former Yugal striker, Kadric and Spirovski had a hand in the move too, which came in the 63rd minute.

Avala had a player sent off in the 15th minute by referee John McConnell who had a splendid game, earning the respect of both teams for his firm handling of the players.

SYDNEY MACEDONIA: Avellino, Souris, Coropovski (Arcosa), Genovese (Card), Baillie, Pilovski, Kotsias, Fernandez, Gilbert, Spirovski, Kadric.

AVALA: Rodic, Vasic (Dragomirescu), Radic, Burkmirovic, Vrankovic, Nastoski, Meades, Benitez, Radovic, Kuc, Welch.

Canberra Croatia also trounced Rockdale Ilinden 4-0 in Sydney at the weekend.

Unfortunately, no details were available as we went to press.

ALL NSW STATE LEAGUE DIVISION 1 REPORTS COMPILED BY PAUL GOODWIN

Hobart Juventus grabs the lead in Tasmania

BY WALTER PLESS



THREE second-half goals by Hobart Juventus gave it a 3-1 win over Caledonian at KGV Soccer Park and enabled the Italian-backed club to open up a three-point lead at the top of Tasmania's Cadbury State League competition.

White Eagle, the reigning league champion, moved into second place when it won 5-1 against Burnie United at Montello Park, Burnie.

Ulverstone, which topped the league for a number of weeks, suffered its first defeat of the league season, going down 2-1 to Olympia SBT Bank at South Hobart.

In the remaining match of the round, last-placed Croatia-Glenorchy, succumbed 3-1 to Devonport City at KGV.

Caledonian outplayed Hobart Juventus for the opening 45 minutes and a Brett Murtagh goal in the 14th minute, from Ian Parker's pass, gave Calies a 1-0 lead at the interval.

Juventus had centre-back Nick Di Martine back, but striker Romeo Frediani was still unavailable. Goalkeeper Neil Connell replaced youngster Brett Williams in a surprising move by coach Frank Maccarone.

The Juventus midfield found it difficult to gain possession against the aggressive play of Calies' Paul Fenlon, Matt Wesson, Richard Ketchell and Greg Calvert, and when it did have the ball, the service to strikers Steve Walker and Brett Harwood was poor.

Juventus fullback Frank Genovesi showed his team-mates how to score when he pushed forward and drove a fine shot past Glen Stewart in the 54th minute.

Pace headed Juventus into the lead from Genovesi's corner in the 71st minute, but Murtagh missed a great chance to level for Calies when he sliced Ketchell's cut-back wide of a post with seven minutes remaining.

A tragic error by sweeper Andrew Joseph in the 87th minute enabled John McIntyre to kill Calies off.

Joseph, who spent last season playing in Victoria, miskicked completely as Juventus launched a lightning counter-attack and McIntyre was able to sprint unchallenged for half the length of the field before placing a low shot past the unprotected Stewart to make it 3-1.

Croatia-Glenorchy, without captain and midfielder, Chris Barrell, and defender John Arnold, rarely looked like troubling an under-strength Devonport City, although Croatia did manage to keep the visitor goalless in the second half.

A penalty by Kevin Smith and a great strike by Adrian Mann saw Devonport 2-0 up before a bizarre goal by Croatia's Steve Herbert reduced the arrears, his speculative cross from the right bouncing over goalkeeper Bob Smith and into the net.

Andrew Meldrum scored Devonport's third three minutes before half-time to complete the scoring, although Croatia's Peter Robins was unlucky in the second half when his shot was turned onto the crossbar by Smith.

Scott Young hit a hat-trick as White Eagle comfortably accounted for host Burnie United 5-1. Eagle's remaining goals coming from Craig Pitt and Richard Leszczynski. Ray Parke replied for Burnie.

Ken Morton's goal midway through the opening half saw Olympia lead Ulverstone 1-0 at the break, while Richard Simpson, who had returned to Olympia after only a brief spell with Rapid, made it 2-0 midway through the second period.

An Andrew Howe penalty, his fifth of the season, three minutes from the end almost cost Olympia the match.

Not only did it put the North-West Coast side within striking distance of Olympia, it reduced the latter to 10 men as Paul Tsangaris was sent off.

Frank Maccarone, coach of league leader, Hobart Juventus, was relieved at his team's win, especially after Easter Monday's debacle, when Juventus lost 5-1 to White Eagle in the Cascade Summer Cup Final.

Standings:

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Hobart Juv	5	4	1	0	19	8	13
White Eagle	5	3	1	1	15	7	10
Ulverstone	4	3	0	1	9	3	9
Launceston	4	2	0	9	3	8	
Devonport	5	1	3	1	11	10	6
Olympia-SBT	4	1	1	2	4	6	4
Caledonian	4	1	0	3	4	7	3
Burnie Utd	4	1	0	3	4	13	3
Croatia	5	0	1	4	3	21	1

Leading Goalscorers: 7 Sergio Pace (Hobart Juventus); 5 Andrew Howe (Ulverstone); Steve Walker (Hobart Juventus); 4 Craig Pitt (White Eagle); Michael Di Pietro (Devonport City); 3 Scott Young (White Eagle).

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NSW CHALLENGE CUP FINAL

SUNDAY MAY 6

DEAKIN OVAL CANBERRA 3PM

CANBERRA CROATIA v BHP AUSTRAL,
WOLLONGONG MACEDONIA or
SYDNEY MACEDONIA*

*The other finalist depends upon the outcome of games to be played during the week.

DIVISION 2

SATURDAY 5TH MAY

Waverley v Auburn Yugal Waverley Oval
Fairfield City v Orange Waratahs Knight Park

DIVISION 3

Mt Pritchard v North Ryde RSL Mt Pritchard
Concordia v Lemnos Allstars Arlington Oval
Bathurst 75 v Uni of NSW Kelso Park
Bankstown v West Wanderers Jensen Park

SUNDAY 6TH MAY

DIVISION 2

Campbelltown Vik v Southern District Bensley Road
Central Coast v Rosebery Plum Park
Dulwich Hill v Petersham Arlington Oval
Gladesville H'by v Mt Druitt Town* Christie Park
Granville Chile v Manly Warringah Garside Park

*Under 19 at 12noon

DIVISION 3

Canterbury & Dist v Port Hacking Mackey Park
Cyprus United v Hills United Fraser Park

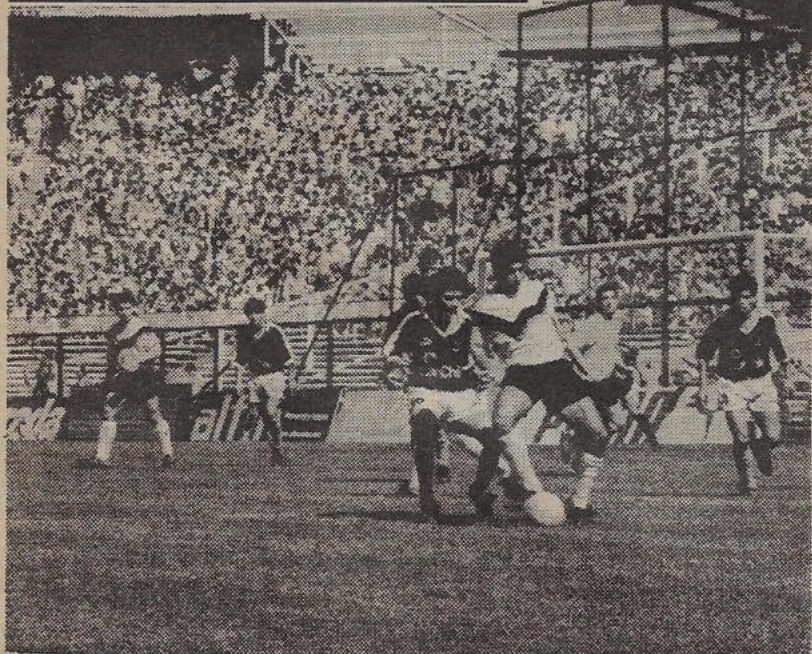
All games kick-off 3pm with U19 at 1pm, with BHP Austral 2.30pm and 12.30pm, unless otherwise stated.



Amateurs, Juniors and Schools News

Send your stories and pictures to
AUSTRALIAN SOCCER WEEKLY, PO BOX 406 BROADWAY 2007
Telephone (02) 660 2033 FAX (02) 692 0649

SCHOOLS FLASHBACK



NSW Secondary Schools (white shirts and slash) in action against the Colo Colo youth side in Chile. The visitors lost 1-0, but played before an electrifying 67,000 crowd as early game to the Colo Colo — Universidad Catolica local derby.

Turner Cup on the go



THE 1990 Commonwealth Bank Bill Turner Cup Draw and Information Book has created a lot of interest.

The book is a goldmine of information that leaves no one in any doubt about the competition.

The bank's Sue Pilgrim is to be congratulated for such an excellent production.

It contains photographs from last year, the results from the Pre-Quarter finals onwards, a history of the cup, all the rules, team sheet, the complete draw for every area plus dozens of other relevant details.

Results usually

appear in the results columns of Monday morning editions of newspapers.

Speculations, predictions and guesses were made-a-plenty in 1989.

It will be remembered that Cambridge Park upset the predictions to win the trophy.

There will be one or two new faces among the co-ordinators.

Apart from Roger Holcroft in Queensland, Noel Cocking of Francis Greenway High, Besesfield takes over from Dudley Lewis in Newcastle — Hunter, Ed Uitterlinden, Corri-mal from Gary Kemp on the NSW South Coast, Greg Mulvaney, Ginninderra High from John Barbour in the ACT and Ken Maguire of Richmond High for John Moscovis assisting Lindsay Hewison in Sydney.

Terry Hampton from



Wallsend High will once again head up the competition.

Play early

Like most other sports there is considerable concern being given to the possible hold up by wet weather.

Last year the dates for the final had to be held a week later than scheduled.

This could be very difficult this year as a promotional function has been arranged for the week leading up to the semifinals, play off and final.

Co-ordinators are urging coaches to play their games earlier, rather than waiting till the last day of the round.



FAIRFIELD CITY U15: Coach: M. Smileski. I. Talevski, T. Smileski, C. Mangila, S. Cetindag, M.S. pirkovski, J. Arapi, M. Stanoevski, P. Mynos, S. Petrovski, P. Mazzetti, P. Guadardo, S. Suminovski. — Pic: H. Carrasco.

Wheatley on North Coast tour

FROM BOB DICKEY

ROBBIE Wheatley, the newly appointed promotions and development officer, is expected to tour the far Northern Associations of Kempsey, Macksville, Grafton, MacLean, Casino Lismore and Ballina.

The proposed dates are June 12 to June 15.

Organised through the Northern Branch's Regional Director of Coaching, Arthur Jessup, Wheatley will visit Primary and High Schools in these areas spreading the good word on soccer.

He follows hot on the heels of former Australian Soccerroo coach Frank Arok, who has just completed a hectic three-day coaching tour at each of the Umbro

coaching clinics in Lismore, Grafton, Coffs Harbour and Kempsey.

He took personal charge, providing instruction to nearly 150 players from ages U10 to U16.

The smallest Association of MacLean Valley attracted 60 enthusiastic players followed by Grafton with 41, Lismore with 35 and a dismal 12 at Coffs Harbour.

The North thanks Umbro and Frank Arok for the history-making tour of this branch.

Very good news from the NSW Country U12 and U13 teams who played for the "John Adamson Trophy" in the Bega invitation U13 carnival over the Easter long weekend.

Both teams performed exceptionally well, with the U12

finishing second in their pool of six teams and third overall, whilst the U13 won their pool of six teams and came second overall.

Coach of the U13 side, Dave Ahearn, was very pleased with his players' performance.

Arthur Jessup, the U12s coach, was over the moon.

His team's results against some stronger opponents was commended by all in attendance, and was borne out by the fact that they won two of the four player awards.

David Hodgson from Newcastle was awarded the most complete player of the tournament, whilst Aaron Thompson, also from Newcastle, was nominated the most constructive player.

The Golden Boot and goalkeepers'



ROBBIE WHEATLEY

awards went to the Eastern Region and the Latrobe Valley.

The U12s results were: 15-0 v Bega, 6-2 v Seaford, 1-0 v Belnorth Gold (U13), 0-4 v Eastern Region (U13 Rep.) and 1-1 v Latrobe Valley (U13 rep).

In the finals they won 3/1 over Mt Pritchard (U13), placing them third overall, behind Eastern Region and NSW country U13.

Terry Greedy active on NSW Central Coast



TERRY GREEDY

YOUNGSTERS on the Central Coast had an ideal opportunity during the Easter holidays to attend a soccer camp featuring some of the biggest neames in the sport.

More than 50 talented players attended the camp at The Entrance Sports and Community Centre for five days.

Although rain prevented outdoor work, the talks and videos during the three-hour sessions and some solid work-outs made it well worthwhile.

Organised by former star Soccerroo goalkeeper Terry Greedy and assisted by qualified coach Allan Bourke from State Super League side North Shore United, the camp featured Gary Phillips, Robbie Hooker, Charlie Yankos, Abbas Saad and Scott Ollerenshaw on most days.

Greedy's initiative was appreciated by the participants who were enthralled and exhausted at the end of each session.

Obviously, they will be back for more in the future and with the Central Coast Association also conducting their own camp, this area is sure to produce its share of stars in the coming seasons.

— PAUL GOODWIN

NSW wins Deaf Championship

THE Australian Deaf Soccer Tournament for the Southern Cross Shield was held at Newcastle at Easter.

The competition was contested by Victoria, Queensland, Northern NSW and NSW teams.

Once more, NSW proved superior to the

others, snatching the shield from Victoria.

The results of the games were as follows:

FRIDAY 13-4-90. NSW 3 (W. Tooker, T. Vogel) Northern NSW 0, Vic 5 Qld 0.

SATURDAY 14-4-90. NSW 4 (T. Vogel, N. Moir, V. Terlizzi, G. White) Vic 1; Northern NSW 5 Qld 0.

SUNDAY 15-4-90. Northern NSW 1 Vic 1; NSW 3 (V. Terlizzi, N. Moir, I. Campbell) Qld 2.

UMBRO YOUTH LEAGUE

ROUND 10 WEDNESDAY APRIL 25 DIVISION 1

		U13	U14	U15	U17
Melita	v St George	0-5	1-1	2-3	2-0
Syd Croatia	v Syd Olympic	1-3	1-2	3-3	2-1
APIA	v Sthn Districts	0-0	3-3	1-0	0-0
Blacktown City	v Cant/M'ville	5-1	2-2	4-1	2-2
Marconi	v Macarthur	2-1	3-0	2-2	5-3
Sutherland	v Illawarra	w/f	0-0	1-2	4-0
Bankstown	v Nepean	1-1	1-2	2-2	2-3

ROUND 11 SATURDAY APRIL 28

St George	v Syd Croatia	8-1	6-0	2-4	3-3
Syd Olympic	v APIA	1-0	1-0	2-0	1-2
Cant/M'ville	v Melita	0-3	0-1	2-3	1-1
Macarthur	v Blacktown City	0-5	1-1	0-3	1-4
Illawarra	v Marconi	0-5	1-1	1-6	0-1
Nepean	v Sutherland	3-1	1-2	1-3	2-2
Sthn Districts	v Bankstown	2-1	3-2	1-0	2-1

DEFERRED GAMES

Cant/M'ville	v Illawarra	1-2	1-2	1-4	11-0
Blacktown City	v Croatia	1-0	1-1	1-1	3-4

ROUND 10 DIVISION 2 WEDNESDAY APRIL 25

Manly Warringah	v Ku-ring-gai	1-3	1-2	1-0	8-0
Gladesville	v Canterbury	2-0	1-0	1-1	1-0
Warringah	v Sthn Branch	1-2	2-2	4-0	6-0
Avala	v Fairfield	3-0	5-1	1-1	5-2
Blacktown	v Gladesville	w/o			
Rockdale	v Sthn & Eastern	0-5	0-0	1-1	2-1
Central Coast	v Polonia	1-1	2-0	2-0	3-4

ROUND 11 SATURDAY APRIL 28

Ku-ring-gai	v Gladesville	0-3	0-3	0-3	0-5
Canterbury	v Warringah	5-0	1-6	4-1	1-2
Fairfield City	v Manly Warringah	2-1	1-0	1-4	0-6
Granville	v Avala	4-2	3-2	1-0	2-2
Sthn & Eastern	v Blacktown	4-2	3-0	1-0	4-7
Polonia	v Rockdale	2-1	1-1	0-2	1-0
Sth Branch	v Central Coast	3-1	0-0	1-3	1-2

DEFERRED GAMES

Ku-ring-gai	v Polonia	5-0	1-0	0-0	0-2
Avala	v Gladesville	0-2	0-2	1-3	2-4
Canterbury	v Blacktown	2-1	1-3	0-0	3-5

Mitre Metro Representatives

ROUND 4 DIVISION A

Canterbury	v Blacktown	3-0	5-0
Sthn Districts	v St George	1-3	2-3
Granville	v Sutherland	1-2	2-3
Sthn Branch	v Bankstown	4-1	1-3
Macarthur	v Illawarra	3-1	2-2

ROUND 5 SUNDAY APRIL 29

Canterbury	v Sthn Districts	4-2	3-1
St George	v Sutherland	0-7	2-0
Gladesville	v Bankstown	3-1	0-1
Illawarra	v Blacktown	3-1	0-0
Sthn Branch	v Macarthur	1-6	0-0

DIVISION B

ROUND 1

WEDNESDAY APRIL 25

Nepean	v Ku-ring-gai	2-1	1-0
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ROUND 3

SUNDAY APRIL 29

Sthn & Eastern	v Central Coast	4-0	1-0
Gladesville	v Ku-ring-gai	2-1	3-1
Manly Warr	v Nepean	0-4	1-1
Macquarie	v bye	—	—

Vikings overcome Rosebery

BY PAUL GOODWIN

COMING off a five-game winning sequence, Rosebery started things off on the wrong foot when they took on the rapidly improving Campbelltown Vikings at Arlington Oval on Saturday.

Originally set down for Sydney Athletic Field, a late switch was needed when it was revealed that an athletics programme had been scheduled for the same day.

It was not the best of introductions for Ken Wilson, signed only days before the game and stepping into the sweeper's spot.

At first it looked like a good move when Erkin Osman, who had been in the position, moved up front and scored a goal within five minutes.

A peach of a ball from Ercan Osman to brother Erkin Osman on the right ended with an angled drive into the top left corner, to set up a fine game.

Campbelltown were level within 60 seconds. A long throw to the waiting Ray Carney produced a quick reply, with the tiny striker getting to the ball first and clipping it past Psaroudis.

Erkin Osman restored the lead from the penalty spot in the 33rd, but again the Vikings drew level, Carney's cross being nodded in by Sep Disch.

A Disch cross in the 75th allowed Steve Blackburn to put the visitors in front and although under intense pressure for the last 15 minutes, it was Campbelltown who found the net finally, Richard Celarc racing onto a Disch pass and finishing clinically.

It was Rosebery's first home defeat since March 1988 and with several more signings in the offing, it remains to be seen whether the changes wrought will bring about the desired results.

Dulwich Hill mowed down Orange 6-0 at the Waratah Sports Ground, Dennis Duarte now beginning to hit the form that brought him the leading goalscorer award last year.

A trophy has been donated by a Second Division supporter and the contest is sure to be tight for the remainder of the season, with this extra incentive available.

Duarte scored twice and his colleagues Nello Borges and Steve Karavatakis did likewise, as Orange battled away against the most polished side in the league.

Yugal went two up against Southern Districts in front of 1,362 avid fans and held a handy 2-0 half-time lead.

Steve Wilson and Paul Petterson were on



ERKIN OSMAN

target, but a controversial goal by David White, now back after a spell out of the game and immediately back in the groove, upset some sections of the crowd.

Another White goal, added to a good strike by Leo Ulloa, a diving header in the 60th minute, helped Southern Districts regain the winning habit with a 3-2 scoreline.

Mount Druitt worked hard against Fairfield on the number two pitch at Popondetta Park, but lost the game in the 82nd minute when Gary Hastie converted a penalty.

It was tough luck for the home side, which has yet to register a win, though they are playing with plenty of spirit. Fairfield are now making steady progress up the ladder.

Manly replied quickly to a Gladesville strike in the 26th minute by substitute Graeme Williamson, when Steve Wassell ran onto and scored from a through ball.

Gladesville regained the lead in the 78th, again thanks to Williamson, but survived an anxious last 10 minutes before claiming both points.

Goalie David Griffiths made one late and spectacular save from Tom Gavin to preserve his side's lead.

Central Coast were impressive in downing Petersham 3-1 at Erskineville Oval.

Kerry Caban's return to the side gave it added confidence and his goal, a clever piece of tactical thinking ending with a well hit half-volley in the 21st minute, was well taken.

Paul Corbett headed in the second in the 60th minute and five minutes later, an overlapping run by Brett Margin resulted in a good finish by Andrew Ollier.

Signs of complacency for Coast as Petersham pulled one back from a free kick by Speranza, who had almost done it moments earlier when he hit the post.

Granville-Chile drew level with Waverley in the 75th minute at Gar-side Park, before going on to win 2-1 in the last minute.

Both goals came from Andy Ferris who cancelled out another Barry Walker effort, a follow-up shot from his own header which rebounded off the post.

RESULTS
Rosebery Portugal 2 (Erkin Osman 2 (1 pen) Campbell-

town Vikings 4 (Carney, Disch, Blackburn, Celarc), Petersham Lusitanos 1 (Speranza) Central Coast 3 (K. Caban, Corbett, Ollier), Orange Waratah 6 (Duarte 2, Borges 2, Karavatakis 2), Mount Druitt Town 0 Fairfield City 1 (Hastie pen), Manly Warringah 1 (Wassell) Gladesville Hornsby 2 (G. Williamson 2), Granville Chile 2 (Ferris 2) Waverley 1 (Walker), Southern Districts 3 (Ulloa, D. White 2) Auburn Yugal 2 (Wilson, Petterson).

TOP SCORERS: 10 Paul Harriott, 6 Barry Walker, Dennis Duarte, 5 Remy Galloway, Paul Petterson, 4 Mark Butler, Nello Borges, Sep Disch, Leo Ulloa, Gary Hastie, Graeme Williamson, 3 Oskar Selik, Vaso Despotovic, Max Defelicibus, Ray Carney, Andrew Ollier, Steve Karavatakis.

NSW FEDERATION LEAGUES

STATE LEAGUE 2 GR 1

Dulwich Hill	8 5 3 0 19 7 13
Rosebery	8 5 2 2 17 5 12
Fairfield City	10 3 5 2 13 13 11
Campbelltown Vik.	7 4 2 1 16 12 10
Waverley	7 3 2 2 11 10 8
Auburn Yugal	7 3 1 3 11 10 7
Manly Warringah	9 2 3 4 10 10 7
Central Coast	7 3 1 3 8 9 7
Petersham	7 2 3 2 7 8 7
Gladesville H'by	7 1 4 2 10 13 6
Granville Chile	9 2 2 5 19 16 6
Mt Druitt Town	7 0 2 5 2 8 2
Orange Waratahs	8 0 2 6 7 23 2

STATE LEAGUE 2 GR 2

Southern Dist.	8 7 1 0 23 4 15
Rosebery	9 6 2 1 25 10 14
Granville Chile	9 5 2 2 13 10 12
Dulwich Hill	8 5 1 2 18 5 11
Manly Warringah	9 4 3 2 25 19 11
Central Coast	7 4 1 2 17 12 9
Gladesville H'by	7 4 0 3 21 14 8
Campbelltown Vik.	7 2 3 2 11 10 7
Mt Druitt Town	7 2 2 3 11 10 6
Fairfield City	10 3 0 7 10 23 6
Waverley	7 2 1 4 10 13 5
Petersham	7 1 1 5 4 12 3
Auburn Yugal	7 1 0 6 5 27 2
Orange Waratahs	8 0 1 7 5 29 1

STATE LEAGUE 3 GR 1

Bankstown	3 2 1 0 6 1 5
Lemnos Allstars	4 2 0 1 1 5 3 5
Hills United	3 2 0 1 9 3 4
Mt Pritchard	2 2 0 0 5 0 4
Port Hacking	2 2 0 0 5 2 4
Unit of NSW	4 2 0 2 6 9 4
North Ryde RSL	3 1 1 1 5 4 3
Cyprus United	2 1 0 1 4 3 2
Canterbury & Dist	3 1 0 2 3 8 2
Concordia	4 0 1 3 0 9 1
West Wanderers	1 0 0 1 2 3 0
Bathurst 75	3 0 0 3 0 5 0

STATE LEAGUE 3 GR 2

Bankstown	3 3 0 0 9 4 6
Hills United	3 2 1 0 5 3 5
Lemnos Allstars	4 2 1 1 5 6 5
Canterbury & Dist	3 1 2 0 9 5 4
Mt Pritchard	2 1 1 0 10 2 3
Port Hacking	2 1 1 0 3 2 3
Unit of NSW	4 1 1 2 8 9 3
Bathurst 75	3 1 0 2 4 6 2
West Wanderers	1 0 1 0 1 1 1
Cyprus United	2 0 1 1 4 5 1
Concordia	4 0 1 3 2 12 1
North Ryde RSL	3 0 0 3 2 7 0

FEDERATION LEAGUE 4 GR 1

Hajduk Rangers	4 3 0 1 17 3 7
SSC Zagreb	4 3 0 1 13 7 6
Concord Juniors	4 2 1 1 6 5 5
Amcliffe	5 1 3 1 8 8 5
Spanish Club	5 2 1 2 9 11 5
Trasandinos	4 2 0 2 10 6 4
Colo Colo	4 2 0 2 7 7 4
Nineveh Eagles	3 1 1 1 5 3 3
Hawkesbury Dist	3 1 1 1 3 4 3
Baltimore Hercules	2 1 0 1 4 4 2
Roosters Hill Gunner	3 0 0 3 2 10 0
Croatia Syd Jnrs	3 0 0 3 2 18 0

FEDERATION LEAGUE 4 GR 2

Trasandinos	4 4 0 0 10 8
Concord Juniors	4 3 0 1 7 3 6
Roosters Hill Gunner	3 2 0 1 7 4 4
SSC Zagreb	4 2 0 2 8 6 4
Hawkesbury Dist	3 2 0 1 6 5 4
Nineveh Eagles	3 2 0 1 4 3 4
Spanish Club	5 2 0 3 6 6 4
Colo Colo	4 2 0 2 4 5 4

Gladesville opener

Gladesville-Hornsby's State Second Division soccer squad and NSW youth league teams will celebrate the official opening of their new headquarters at Christie Park, Ryde, on Sunday.

As a bonus for the club, arrangements have been made for all games, which will see both ovals of the complex in full use from 10am.

The opening will be performed by the Mayor of Ryde, Mick Ladelli, immediately prior to the commencement of the first game clash with Mount Druitt.

Representatives from political arenas, the NSW Soccer Federation, the NSW Amateur Soccer Federation and Sydney Branch, the 34 local clubs which comprise the association will also attend.

It will also be a major day for the representative teams' major supporter, Mitre 10, and associated sponsors.

Big Anzac Day crowds

BY PAUL GOODWIN

THE excellent weather brought out big crowds at the five games staged on Anzac Day, but there were few surprises.



Dulwich Hill Madeira faced a resolute Mount Druitt and took their time winning 2-0 against the Popondetta Park side whose own ground is causing some concern about its fitness for play.

Mount Druitt toiled hard all afternoon and Jason Wyngaard and Craig Smith never stopped running. Only a lack of confidence in front of goal let them down.

John Pavkovic and Simon Everett had fine games in defence and for all their skillful play in midfield, the home side had only two goals to show for their territorial superiority.

A lovely cross from Richard Lira in the 16th minute was well met by a header from Steve Karavatakis, while Dennis Duarte made it 2-0 from a well placed freekick from the edge of the box in the second half.

Granville Chile led Gladesville early at Christie Park through Esposito but Gladesville should still have won the game instead of only drawing 2-2.

Bernie Voloder cracked two fine goals and Chris Butt had a penalty attempt saved, but Granville drew level with only two minutes to go thanks to Monsalves.

Central Coast beat Orange Waratah 2-1 at Plum Park, but the visitors put up a good fight and led by a Ron Davison goal at half-time.

Paul Corbett and Steve Kirby presented the side with their second win, with goals within 15 minutes of the restart and despite the absence of seven regulars Coast looked in good command for long periods of the match.

Rosebery continued on their winning way with a slender 1-0 win at Mona Park over Auburn-Yugal.

Once again, it was Paul Harriott who did the damage, although it was far from a classic match.

Yugal had a Dave Candy shot cleared off the line, but Harriott had a second goal ruled out when he bundled a loose ball over the line after a cross had been dropped by the goalkeeper.

Fairfield City star Remy Galloway proved too nippy for Manly and is becoming a very slippery customer indeed.

His two goals were enough to see his team 2-1 winners over Manly at Knight Park.

Southern Districts officials were hopping mad at the cancellation of their scheduled fixture with the strong Waverley side. They were denied the use of Ernie Smith Reserve in very dubious circumstances.

The pitch is one of the best wet-weather grounds in the State League, but despite dry conditions for days the club was told it could not use the field as all Council grounds had been called out.

It seems about time that the State League organisers impressed upon the various Councils throughout the met-



ropolitan area just how prestigious its competition is and how much hinges on these games going ahead whenever possible.

Campbelltown Vikings' Bensley Road pitch was, as forecast, unfit for play and the game against Petersham was called off after an early inspection.

ANZAC DAY RESULTS: Gladesville-Hornsby 2 (Volder 2)

Granville Chile 2 (Esposito, Monsalves); Fairfield City 2 (Galloway 2) Manly Warringah 1;

Dulwich Hill Madeira 2 (Karavatakis, Duarte) Mount Druitt Town 0;

Central Coast 2 (Corbett, Kirby) Orange Waratah 1 (Davison);

Auburn Yugal 0 Rosebery Portugal 1 (Harriott);

Southern District v Waverley postponed; Campbelltown Vikings v Petersham Lusitanos postponed.

Winston Hills wins Masters in Hawaii

BY JOHN ECONOMOS

WINSTON HILLS Buffers, an over-30s side, scored a resounding success at the Inter World Masters Tournament in Hawaii.

The Buffers defeated the highly rated Hawaiian Select 3-1 in the final.

The Australian contingent was led by former Sydney Croatia, St George, Sydney Olympic and Melita striker, Peter Hensman.

As well as the Buffers, the Masters included Vancouver Island (Canada), Baci (Italy) and the Hawaiians.

Winston Hills had won the tournament at the Sydney Athletic Field in 1989 by defeating California Gold.

In their opening match, Winston Hills defeated the tough Canadians in the hot mid-day Hawaiian sun 1-0.

A great through ball was chased by Hensman but he was crash-tackled inside the box to earn a penalty. He calmly slotted the spot kick into the Canadian net for the winning goal.

The second match was played under floodlights on a magnificent Hawaiian evening with Winston Hills playing the best game of the tournament to hammer the Italians 6-0.

Hensman, a former block-busting winger, scored a double as Vince

Balzan, Archie Kilpatrick, Jack McLean and Jimmy McArdle nailed the rest.

Balzan's effort was a 30 metre drive that rocketed into the roof of the net. Hensman scored his second goal with a delicate chip.

The final game was against the 'powerfully built Hawaiians.

The Hawaiians cheekily fielded many under-aged players, but despite their superior pace, the Winston Hills boys kept them out.

Hensman headed on a long high ball which enabled McArdle to score in the first half.

The Hawaiians scored the only goal against Winston in the tournament through a piece of slack marking but Winston struck back with another from McLean.

Man Of The Match, Laurie Azzopardi pumped an endless supply of passes which eventually saw Kilpatrick beat the Hawaiian off-side trap, round their goalkeeper and hammer the ball into the net.

Winston Hills next year will head for Argentina to defend their title for the third time.

The Winston Hills travelling squad to Hawaii included Phil Dunning, Zenek Hupalowski, Laurie Azzopardi, Ray McAleese, Don O'Regan, Vince Balzan, Frank Knight, Malcolm Hogg, Archie Kilpatrick, Jim McArdle, Peter Hensman, Jack McLean, Charlie Agius.

REGIONAL NEWS

ASW is always keen to publish some stories and pictures from main regional centres throughout Australia.

Publicity officers, there is the chance to make your district wider known in the game.

Address material to ASW, PO Box 406, Broadway 2007.

Chris Woods comes good

CHRIS Woods needed just 78 minutes of international football to answer three important questions.

Striding positively into the fray against Brazil following the unfortunate eye injury to Peter Shilton, the Rangers' keeper:

• ASSURED England fans he can be relied upon to replace Shilts at the drop of an international cap;

• CONFIRMED that he

is finally over the illness which once threatened his whole career;

• PROVED he has the ability and temperament to succeed Shilton on a permanent basis.

Woods was rarely troubled during the morale-boosting 1-0 win over World Cup favourites Brazil, but he

did make some vital stops when called upon.

On two occasions in particular he rushed from his line to make brave blocks at the feet of Brazilian forwards.

Although he's lived in the shadow of Shilton ever since he was a 16-year-old at Nottingham Forest, Woods still has

time on his side to emerge as a world class performer in his own right.

Even by the time of the 1994 tournament in the United States, Woods will only be 34 — and he's setting his sights even further ahead than that.

From an English point of view it's good to hear Woods talking in such a confident and positive manner after a nightmare 18-month spell when illness and injury might have destroyed some of his self-belief.

"The virus I picked up in November 1988 — together with a shoulder injury which followed — were obvious hindrances, but I'm feeling a lot better now," he insists.

"The aim for any keeper is to keep a clean sheet and making spectacular saves has never really bothered me.

"The main strengths in my game are shot-stopping, making sure the wall is properly positioned at free-kicks and putting pressure on opposing forwards in one-to-one situations.

"Those strengths all paid dividends during the Brazil game and hopefully I've done myself a few favours with that performance."

"I'd like to think that I have another eight good seasons in me and that would take in the 1998 World Cup too," he says.

"I'm just looking forward to a good run. I hope to be as hard to displace as Peter.

"I started under him as a teenager and I've picked up that technique comes from an early age.

"But you can never learn enough about this game. Maybe that's why goalkeepers get better as they get older.

"In Scotland, especially playing for Rangers, I don't get too much to do in a lot of games and while, that caused me problems at first, it is a benefit to me now because an international keeper's involvement is similar to that of playing for a top club."

ATKINSON FOR VILLA?

ASTON Villa have already targeted a new boss should Graham Taylor take over Bobby Robson's England job after the World Cup.

But the choice could create controversy in Birmingham because of his previous links with Villa's rivals, for Taylor's job is set to go to Ron Atkinson, who used to manage West Bromwich Albion.

Chairman Doug Ellis will accept Atkinson's flamboyant style in return for strong management and a taste for entertaining football.

Big Ron knows all about big-time management after successful spells at Manchester United and Atletico Madrid, despite shock sackings from both clubs.

Sherry's on the



World Cup trail

JOHN SHERIDAN

FIVE months ago John Sheridan's hopes of making it to the World Cup were fading fast.

Languishing in Brian Clough's reserves at Nottingham Forest, Sheridan had been warned by Republic of Ireland manager Jack Charlton that he couldn't be considered for an international place unless he was playing first team football.

Then suddenly the cavalry arrived in the shape of Ron Atkinson and Sheridan had the chance to strut the First Division stage with Sheffield Wednesday.

Now Big Jack would have to be crackers to

leave Sherry out of his World Cup plans.

When Sheridan saw his name in the Republic of Ireland squad for the friendly against Wales, it was the first time it had appeared there for 15 months.

Sheridan says: "It was a great feeling. And although I'm taking nothing for granted, my chances of making it to Italy certainly seem a lot brighter now than they did before Christmas.

"But whatever happens, I owe so much to Ron Atkinson for showing faith in me when my confidence had taken something of a battering from Brian Clough."

"It was heartbreaking to be told by one of the most respected managers in the game that I wasn't good enough for his first team plans — although deep down I knew I had more to offer than Cloughie had recognised.

"But Ron Atkinson didn't take long to convince me Sheffield Wednesday was the right move. They have

the sort of style which suits my game entirely although they were just bottom of the Division.

"I made my debut against Forest two days after I signed but I didn't go out to prove Cloughie wrong — the points were more important in our 1-0 victory.

"Brian Clough is still an outstanding manager, as he has proved by taking Forest to Wembley again, and there are no hard feelings.

"But Mr Atkinson has given me the sort of freedom of expression that every player loves and I must have done enough to make Jack Charlton feel that I was worth considering again.

"Now my immediate task is to keep Sheffield Wednesday in the First Division and I'm not thinking about anything else.

"But nothing would make me prouder than to play for Jack Charlton's Republic of Ireland in the World Cup finals this summer — and if I do, I'll say a big thank you to Big Ron."

— courtesy SHOOT

Cash and guitar for Jack's lads

THE 22 members of the Republic of Ireland's World Cup squad will share a \$1.5 million bonus — around \$63,000 each — if they return home from Italy with the trophy.



JACKIE CHARLTON

That's roughly in line with the winning bonus suggested for the England squad — but smaller than that agreed by Scotland.

But if Eire are successful Jack Charlton will also want an unusual and immediate reward — a guitarist.

Big Jack recalls:

"When we qualified in Malta, I sent out for a guitarist to come around to our hotel but we couldn't find one anywhere.

"Let's hope it's different if we're successful in Italy — because our fans love a party.

"And we will be doing our best to give them one."



Juve to take first UEFA Cup final leg

BY LOU GAUTIER

Juventus are home to Fiorentina in Turin today (Wednesday) in the first leg of the all-Italian UEFA Cup final.

Buoyed by their Italian Cup triumph at the expense of troubled AC Milan last Wednesday, Juventus will start firm favourites against a Fiorentina side which surprised everyone by reaching the final after a dismal domestic season.

Juventus, however, will have to concentrate more than they did in the semi-finals when they allowed FC Koln to score two late goals after the Italians had raced to a 3-0 lead.

A capacity crowd should witness an intriguing battle between the fluent Juve, which failed to come up to scratch in the league this season, and the battlers from Fiorentina led by Baggio and Dunga.

This may well be one of the last appearances in Juventus' famed striped colours

of all three of their former players as Soviets Alexandr Zavarov and Sergei Aleinikov, and Portuguese Rui Barros are all expected to be transferred.

Juve will be looking to 1989/90 revelation Schillaci for the all-important goals the side needs before the second leg on May 16.



Juventus should be too classy at home for their opponents and could even carry a comfortable cushion into the return match.

Sheffield police could sue chief

ABOUT 150 British police officers are threatening to sue their chief, alleging they suffered psychological trauma during a crowd stampede in Sheffield a year ago in which 95 fans were killed.

A police spokesman said that officers who were on duty during the disaster at Hillsborough Stadium last April 15 were planning to sue Chief Constable Peter Wright as well as the ground's owners, Sheffield Wednesday Football Club.

The disaster was caused by spectators pushing into an overcrowded section of the stadium a few minutes after the start of last year's Football Association Cup semi-final clash between Liverpool and Nottingham Forest.

An interim report into the disaster last August said there was a lack of police control and rejected police assertions that blame should lie with fans arriving late and drunk.

Lawyer Ian Walker, acting for the police officers, said: "These men and women have been deeply affected by what they saw."

The officers were not entirely happy about suing their own

force but the alternative would be to try to claim damages from anonymous fans, he said.

The decision to sue was attacked by senior officers.

"When there is a disaster it is our job as police officers to go in there and clear it up," said one. "We are in danger of people seeing this as policemen jumping on the financial bandwagon."

Last November police agreed to pay compensation they said could top \$109 million to relatives of the dead fans.

They stressed that the payout, which was expected to settle most of the 1,000 claims from the bereaved and injured, was not an admission of liability for the tragedy.

RIEDLE RECORD

WEST German international striker Karl-Heinz Riedle has signed for Italian First Division club Lazio for what club sources said was a record fee for a Bundesliga player.

Financial details were not revealed, but sources at the northern West German club said the transfer fee was around \$11.5 million.

The previous record was \$8.5 million that Inter Milan paid Bayern Munich for Karl-Heinz Rummenigge in 1984.

The club sources said the 24-year-old player would earn \$1.2 million a year with the Rome club.

He will join them at the start of next season.

"I am very happy. Lazio have a young, promising team which will be very successful in the coming years," said Riedle, who is the sixth current West German international to move to Italy.

Lazio club president Gian Marco Calleri, who attended the signing in Bremen, wants to bring Lazio out of the shadows of city rivals Roma for whom Riedle's former Bremen colleague Rudi Voeller plays along with fellow international Thomas Berthold.



Manchester United captain Bryan Robson (left) arrives too late to stop Paul Gascoigne firing home a goal in Tottenham Hotspur's 2-1 win

PORTUGAL WANTS THE WORLD CUP

FIFA president Joao Havelange said he had met with Portugal's president and "both confided that their country wanted to be a candidate for the organisation of the 1998 World Cup".

Havelange made the disclosure while at the Paris Town Hall to confer with Mayor Jacques Chirac about France's candidacy.

France and Switzerland have officially declared their candidacy for the World's top soccer event, while Morocco and Brazil — which lost out in the bid for the 1994 World Cup — also are expected to seek the 1998 competition.

The 1994 World Cup is scheduled to take place in the United States and the 1990 World Cup begins in Italy on June 8.

The host of the 1998 World Cup is to be announced in June, 1992, while countries have until June, 1991, to present their proposals.

Chirac has been enthusiastic about the possibility of a World Cup in France, but said a large new stadium was needed in the Paris area to add to the credibility of the bid.

A panel of experts has recommended a site in the Bois de Vincennes, a large park on the eastern edge of Paris, but opponents have argued it would be too disruptive to the area.

Colombia out to improve image

BY MARIO ETCHART

AFTER 28 years' absence, Colombia returns to the World Cup with the intention of rejuvenating an image that has been opaqued by the wave of violence unravelled across the country.

Colombia's qualification for the World Cup was the culmination of a developing process that took many years of hard work, but reached its height when the war between the drug barons and the Government swaddled its accomplishment.

During its 28 years out of the World Cup, the soccer development in Colombia achieved a level that put its clubs and the national squad among the best in the continent, mainly because of the efforts of Francisco Maturana, a successful coach with Atletico Nacional de Medellin, the 1989 Libertadores Cup champion, and the national team that qualified for Italy this year.

However, Maturana's work has suffered a serious setback because of the cancellation of the Colombian National League last November after a referee was assassinated, and the very limited preparation of the Colombian squad since then, caused by the threats to the coach and some key players from the drug runners and gamblers involved with the soccer matches.

Maturana, nevertheless, continued his work in the development of tactics to face in the first qualifying round of the World



Valderrama

Cup against West Germany, Yugoslavia and the United Arab Emirates, all in Group D.

The coach has great confidence in the experience of his players and believes that the likes of star Carlos Valderrama, controversial goalkeeper Rene Higuita, defenders Andres Escobar, Luis Carlos Perea and Wilson Perez, midfielders Lionel Alvarez and Bernardo Redin, and strikers Arnaldo Iguaran, John Jairo Trellez and Richardo Perez will cause an impact in the World Cup and will make Colombia a force recognised and respected throughout the world.

Despite all the difficulties, all the obstacles in Colombia's build-up preparation for the major event, this new participation of the South American country brings memories, among the fans, of the historic 4-4 draw with the Soviet Union during the 1962 World Cup in Chile, the last appearance of a Colombian side and the best result achieved in this competition by Colombia.

NEW TURF FOR MILAN

FIFA has urged Italian organisers to replace the turf at Milan's Meazza Stadium where the World Cup opener between Argentina and Cameroun is scheduled on June 8.

Sources close to Milan's World Cup Organising Committee disclosed that the need for a new turf was expressed by Hermann Neuberger, FIFA's vice president.

Neuberger, who inspected the 83,000-seat Milan stadium

did not make any public remarks about the state of the turf, which has been damaged during construction work at the stadium.

Players of AC Milan and Inter, the Italian league teams which play their home matches at the Meazza Stadium, have repeatedly complained about the poor condition of the field.

The replacement of the turf would cost ab-



out \$210,000 and city officials said the operation may be done in May, when league and Cup games will be completed.

In addition to the World Cup inaugural game, the Milan stadium will host matches of West Germany, Yugoslavia, Colombia and the United Arab Emirates.

Meanwhile, Optimal of Hamburg, the West German company which has acquired the rights to sell the turf of Rome's Olympic Stadium at the end of the World Cup, announced that its Italian branch will market 200,000 pieces of the Roman turf for souvenir hunters and soccer fans.

The Olympic Stadium will host the final of the one-month competition on July 8.



Juan Moya of Spain's Valladolid in action against Atletico Madrid.



French defender Franck Sauzee (left) wins this aerial duel from Hungary's Kalman Kovacs in Budapest when France beat Hungary 3-1 recently.



BY LOU GAUTIER

- Coca-Cola have produced a plastic Coca-Cola bottle which will be sold at all World Cup stadia . . . a much less lethal weapon than cans or glass bottles if tossed onto the pitches in Italy.
- Did you know that no less than six of the World Cup stadia have yet to be named? San Siro Stadium is now the Meazza Stadium and the new Turin venue will be named after the late Gaetano Scirea, but many grounds are still known as "Municipal Stadium" and the like.
- Castellon's Spanish ace, Jose Hurtado, only came out of coma last week after a serious car accident, which may paralyse him for life.
- Cameroun's World Cup squad will spend a month in Yugoslavia, at Bar, to prepare for Italia '90. Their only build-up matches a month before the finals will be against local Yugoslav teams.
- FIFA and UEFA have warned the Yugoslav FA for allowing political messages in their stadia — a no-no as far as the world and European governing bodies are concerned.
- Wales will have their own "proper" championship by 1992-93. This First Division will cover the whole of Wales, with the present Abacus League forming the Second Division South while a new league will be set up next season to form the Second Division North.
- FIFA's technical report team for the World Cup finals will be composed of Billy Bingham, Sepp Piontek, Henri Michel, Mario Zagalo, Rene Hussy, Dettmar Cramer, Osvaldo Ramirez and Ivan Toplak — world-renowned coaches all.
- Helmut Ducadam, Steaua Bucharest's European Cup-winning goalkeeper hero in 1986, says he may transfer from his Second Division side, Vagohul, to join Hungarian club Bekescaba.
- Swedish referees have threatened to go on strike in a row over a shock 30 percent reduction in match fees.

Fearless Glenn Hysen

PLAYING in the same group as Brazil and Scotland holds no fears for Sweden's Glenn Hysen as he prepares to stake his first and last claim for a World Cup winners' medal.

Elegant Glenn would have been far more worried about facing England and Holland.

The Liverpool defender has one of the finest records in world football against the samba stars from Brazil.

Relieved

So Hysen was relieved when he watched Sweden draw them on TV. He explains: "There was only the Republic of Ireland and us left in the hat."

"I didn't fancy the group with England and Holland because Bobby Robson's men are really strong and the Dutch must be among the favourites."

"But Brazil and Scotland don't scare us. We played Brazil last summer in a tournament in Denmark and won 2-1. The time before that, back in 1984, we drew 3-3 in an exciting match in Stockholm."

"Brazil's leading striker Careca was already playing for Napoli in Italy when I was in Florence with Fiorentina."

"We must have faced each other about six times because we met in the Cups too — and Careca only managed to score once or twice. We came out on top overall



they used to be.

"... ky"

"People are saying that Sweden are lucky to be going to the competition at all. But we are not going down there to make up the numbers — we expect to make an impression on the competition," Hysen continues.

"It is my first and last chance because Sweden haven't been to the World Cup finals since 1978. I didn't start playing international football until 1981 and at 31 I won't have another opportunity."

"But look out for our young sensation Joakim Nilsson, who at 24 is one of the few international players still operating in Sweden with Malmö."

"Another midfielder Jonas Thern, who plays for Benfica, is so talented for his 23 years, and Klaus Ingesson will be 22 during the competition."

"So you can see that we have plenty of youthful talent in the engine room and there is a nice blend with old-timers such as myself at the back."

And Hysen's tip to win the World Cup?

Italy.

— courtesy SHOOT



NSL TOP FIVE SERIES



SUNDAY MAY 6



MAJOR SEMI-FINAL

PARRAMATTA STADIUM 3PM



MARCONI

VS

MELBOURNE CROATIA

NSL COMMENTARY LINE ...
0055 21150

NSL HOT LINE-RESULTS ...
0055 21166



MINOR SEMI-FINAL

OLYMPIC PARK 3PM



SOUTH MELBOURNE HELLAS

VS

SYDNEY OLYMPIC

NEXT WEEKEND — SUNDAY MAY 13

PRELIMINARY FINAL

Winner (South Melbourne v Sydney Olympic)

v

Loser (Marconi v Melbourne Croatia)



Quit

Ansett.